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THE TIMES

No. 65,200 SATURDAY FEBRUARY 25 1995

Building societies shake-up plan

Savers and borrowers to have more say

BY ROBERT MILLER

THE Government yesterday opened a new era of investor democracy when it unveiled proposals to force building societies to become accountable to their millions of savers and borrowers.

Building societies will be allowed to offer a wide range of new financial services, including lending to small businesses and owning their own household insurance companies, but only if their members approve.

Anthony Nelson, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, published the results of a wide-ranging review of the 1986 Building Societies Act, with a 15-point package of measures designed to loosen some of the restrictions on societies. He warned societies, however, that they must give customers more accountability and better rates on savings accounts and mortgages.

"The Government places great importance on the role played by building societies as a safe haven for people's savings and the major source of housing finance in the UK," he said. "These measures will allow societies to develop that role across a wider range of financial services by removing unnecessary restrictions on their activities."

Mr Nelson added: "They will make members more aware of their position as shareholders in a mutual society. It will enable them, should they wish to do so, to become more actively involved."



Nelson: wants better rates for customers

Some of the measures proposed by the Government — such as improving communication with members about their rights as shareholders, and requiring elections to be held even when the number of candidates equals the number of vacancies on the board — could be included in a new voluntary code of practice rather than legislation.

Many of yesterday's proposals will need primary legislation, but Mr Nelson could not say when time might be found in Parliament to discuss the amendments. Privately, Treasury officials have said they will be watching to see whether building societies act promptly to comply with the spirit of the Government's notion of investor power.

Adrian Coles, the director-general of the Building Societies Association, said: "We look forward to discussing with the Government the possibility of a voluntary code of practice to implement the specific list of proposed measures to strengthen the information provided by societies to their members. This should begin to happen shortly."

Brian Davis, the chief executive of the Nationwide, said: "We generally welcome the changes as they give us greater freedom to plan more effectively for meeting the future financial needs of our customers and to compete with the banks on a more equal footing."

Geoffrey Lister, the chief executive of Bradford and Bingley, said: "I am delighted that the Government has proposed constructive changes which show its commitment to building societies as separate and distinct institutions. The proposals on accountability to members will hopefully encourage a closer involvement in societies' affairs."

One controversial area tackled by Mr Nelson that is likely to need new legislation is the right of building society customers to benefit if their society merges with another, or floats on the stock market as Abbey National did.

Future legislation should change the status of borrowers in relation to bonus payments and will remove the distinction between shareholders and retail depositors.

Anne Ashworth, page 31
Negative equity, page 29

PAUL MASSEY/FSP



Tony Blair, the Labour leader, looking in yesterday on Wallace and Wendoline, the stars of *A Close Shave*, an animated film being made by Nick Park in Bristol

Soccer ban on Cantona until October

ERIC Cantona will not play for Manchester United again until October after a Football Association panel yesterday found him guilty of bringing the game into disrepute.

Cantona, who had been banned by his club for the rest of this season after his attack on a Crystal Palace supporter, was suspended from "all football activities" until September 30 and fined £10,000. United had fined him two weeks' salary, about £20,000.

The commission had taken into account the French player's disciplinary record, the alleged provocation and the prompt action taken by his club. It also considered his "expression of regret". Cantona is to appear before magistrates on March 23 charged with assault.

Cantona penalty, page 44

Come out and fight, Major tells Tories on Euro vote

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN Major demanded yesterday that the Tory party "get up off its knees" as he called for loyalty from Conservative MPs in next week's critical Commons vote on Europe.

The Prime Minister opened his offensive to avoid a crippling defeat by delivering a warning to Tory MPs: "I expect you to be in our lobby supporting our policy." As he faced up to the prospect of a knife-edge vote, Mr Major said he would set down the Government's position on Europe but would expect the backing of all Tory MPs.

"It is time for the Conservative party to get up off its knees and start fighting." His plea came as the nine Euro-sceptic whipless MPs, whose support will be crucial to the Government next week, increased pressure on Mr Major to postpone any decision on Britain joining a single currency.

Mr Major explained his unusual decision to make the opening speech in a Labour-initiated debate, saying he wanted to correct "misunderstandings" over European policy. "I will make it absolutely clear what our European policy is today, tomorrow and the long-term future. I intend to say to every Conservative MP, 'that is our policy and I expect you to be in our lobby supporting our policy.'"

His remarks opened up a six-day offensive by ministers aimed at defeating Labour's motion criticising the Government's EU policy. The combative stance, in a private speech in Scotland, came as senior Tories conceded that next Wednesday's vote will be extremely tight and that the result will hinge on whether Mr Major's opening speech wins over the sceptics. Ministers are anxious that an alliance of whipless MPs, Tory Euro-sceptics and Ulster Unionists dismayed at the Northern Ireland framework document could inflict a defeat which Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, acknowledged yesterday would force a vote of confidence.

John Wilkinson, one of the whipless MPs, increased pressure on Mr Major to give in to the sceptics' demands. Mr Wilkinson said that the debate "will be a great opportunity for him to seize the moral high ground over Europe by responding to the desire of the British people for a referendum".

Mr Hurd moved yesterday to safeguard the Government against defeat by telling Euro-sceptics that a decision on a single currency need not be taken until the next century.

He emphasised the importance of Wednesday's vote. Tory unity could have a crucial long-term effect on party fortunes. "If we can put that division and weakness behind us as a result of Wednesday, the Labour party will have done the Government a powerfully good turn."

Robin Cook, Labour's Shadow Foreign Secretary, denied Mr Hurd's claim that Labour was pressing the debate out of political opportunism. "I see it as a proper use of the House of Commons for the Prime Minister to go there and set out the Government's policies on Europe," he said.

INSIDE

Major in Scotland 2
Defence outline 15
Peter Riddell 18

US accuses Pasqua of lying

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS AND MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

CHARLES PASQUA, the French Interior Minister, yesterday added to controversy over the CIA's alleged espionage in Paris when he accused the Clinton Administration of leaking details of the affair to the press.

In a highly-unusual attack on a named minister of another country, the State Department in Washington responded by saying it greatly regretted M Pasqua's accusations and "categorically rejects the allegation that we are responsible for the detailed and totally reprehensible press leaks published in a number of French newspapers. This charge is neither true nor credible."

One senior American source said the Administration believed M Pasqua was the leaker. The United States gained nothing from having its covert activities publicised, and "from the kind of detail that was provided it does seem like it was at least coming out of his office".

The State Department also denounced M Pasqua angrily for having divulged details of two meetings with Pamela Harriman, the US Ambassador. At the first, on January 26, M Pasqua said Mrs Harriman was told of the charges against her embassy officials. At the second she was asked speedily to remove them. By early this week nothing had happened, and the story was leaked. "All this can be blamed on the US delay in resolving the affair," M Pasqua told *Le Monde*.

The State Department said the US had "scrupulously respected the confidentiality agreed on" during the two meetings, and regretted M Pasqua's "inaccurate and incomplete account" of them. "Any such exchanges by definition should have been protected by the rule of diplomatic confidentiality and we believe any public discussion of their content to be inappropriate."

A senior Administration source disclosed yesterday that one of the four CIA officers had already left Paris, and that the rest would do so shortly, either because their covers had been blown or because their postings had run their course. The whereabouts of a fifth American, a private citizen who was accused of spying, is not clear.

Harriman: details of two meetings

The Americans concede that there is some foundation to the French charges, but counter that the French are guilty of far more spying. M Pasqua claimed the Americans spied not only in France, but across Europe. "This is very unfriendly behaviour, coming from an allied service."

In what looked like a huge breach of diplomatic protocol, the Gaullist Interior Minister had told *Le Monde* that he told Mrs Harriman in January that five Americans, four of them diplomats, had been identified as spies and should leave Paris. Two weeks later, she returned to say the US intended to take no action and to ask whether the five would be expelled. M Pasqua was quoted as saying. He replied that they would not.

French uncertainty, page 13

It's curtains for Fry, playwright says

BY DOMINIC KENNEDY

STEPHEN FRY, the actor who has not been seen since Sunday, yesterday faxed his agent to blame stage fright for his "absurd behaviour" in leaving Simon Gray's West End play *Cell Mates*.

Apologising to the author and Rik Mayall, his co-star, Fry said he had gone away to think about his career because "it would be foolish to carry on doing things for which I haven't either the aptitude or perhaps the desire".

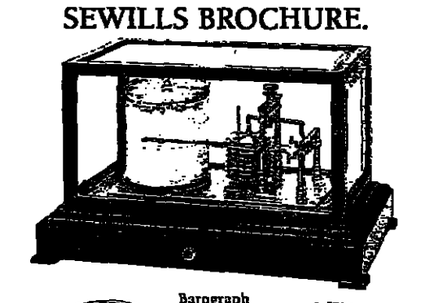
The playwright said the fax was "wonderfully frank" and "honourable", but there his sympathy ended. Accusing Fry of leaving the cast in the lurch, he said: "Now that it turns out that he is all right, I am sick to death at the whole issue of Stephen, who is absolutely in the past as far as the company is concerned.

"I do wish someone would worry about the other casualties, because there have been an awful lot of them, including now the play. We all know why he left. He left because his personal reviews were extremely unfavourable ... he became emotionally deeply distressed and all that, but there is another story too, that is what that means to other people ... [who] have been deeply hurt by the circumstances he created."

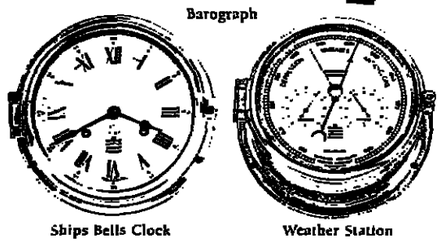
Gray recalled that Mayall had been in tears, believing Fry might have committed suicide, and had to perform nightly without knowing if his friend were alive or dead. "I have enormous affection for Stephen, et cetera, et cetera, but I really don't think it is a professional act just to step away from a production because you get bad reviews ... A lot of the great names would not be in the theatre any more if they ran when they were wounded."

Fax statement, page 2
Bernard Levin, page 18

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Dinner in Grozny with guns on the menu

FROM ANATOL LIEVEN IN GROZNY

OUR introduction to the men of the Spetsnaz rapid reaction force was terrifying. We were at dinner in a Chechen household in Russian-held Grozny when we looked up to see a masked, uniformed figure with a levelled machinegun framed in the doorway. There were about two seconds of stunned silence, then a hoarse yell in Russian of "Stay still!" The room was filled with guns, camouflage uniforms and military curses.

In the course of the arrests that followed I received several kicks in the ribs and a crack over the head from a rifle butt. Things could, however, have been much worse. As Dima, one of the men who arrested us, said later: "You know, you're really lucky. After the kind of report we'd had about you, we'd normally have chucked a grenade into the room first and looked for your documents later. I'm sorry we scared you but I was pretty scared."

It seems we were the victims, indirectly, of a non-existent Chechen military unit in which the Russians believe implicitly and which they fear greatly. The so-called "White Tights" are a mythical group of women snipers from the Baltic fighting on the Chechen side out of hatred of Russia.

Our Chechen host is a relative of and aide to the Russian-backed Mayor of Grozny, so we had counted on being able to stay with him undisturbed. However his neighbours had denounced us as "strangers speaking with Baltic accents". It did not help that three of us were women correspondents. Lieutenant Colonel Yefimenko had put two and two together, got five Baltic snipers and sent the Spetsnaz to bring us in.

Later, when everything had been sorted out and our credentials established, the Spetsnaz men were apologetic. They invited us to an improvised banquet in their mess tent to celebrate Russian Army Day. Afterwards, as they escorted us home through the severe curfew, we sensed just how worried even elite units like the Spetsnaz are in the city they now control. Believing that they could be shot at or ambushed at any moment, they moved in battlefield formation, covering open spaces at a run and levelling their weapons at every doorway — the besiegers besieged.

Although the large bump on my head suggests that the Spetsnaz are sometimes excessively cautious, they also behave like well-trained professionals, as demonstrated by the silence in which they surrounded and entered the house in which we were staying. It was in sharp contrast to many Russian army conscript units whose

Continued on page 2, col 5

INDEX
Births, marriages, deaths 20
Bridge and chess 40
Leading articles 19
Weather 22

WEEKEND
Arts 5-7
Gardening 9
Travel 14-19

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Fry says sorry for cowardice and distress



Fry: not a breakdown, but a nervous stalling

A statement faxed by Stephen Fry to his agent, Lorraine Hamilton, yesterday said:

"I have been horrified and embarrassed to see from the papers how much attention my departure has provoked. I do want to apologise for all the distress and concern I have caused. I have been in touch with those closest to me to assure them of my good health, but I cannot let this opportunity go by without apologising again to two of the kindest and wisest people I know, Simon Gray and Rik Mayall, who have borne the brunt of this dismal affair. I have dealt them a very low blow indeed. My other friends know who they are and that I will be in touch with them.

I can only offer cowardice, embarrassment and distress as excuses for such absurd behaviour. I would like also to say that I hold no grudge against the theatre critics. I left not out of pique, because I had been wounded or hurt, but because I was afraid that they were terribly right and that I was letting down Rik Mayall's brilliant performance in Simon Gray's remarkable play. They both deserved better and I am delighted and relieved that they are going to get it. I should also like to thank Mark Anderson for his heroism in going on for me and to apologise for the pressure this must have placed on him and to offer Duncan Weldon, a brave and resourceful producer, profound apologies for treating him so shabbily. I wish Simon Ward every good fortune and know that he will do great justice to a wonderful piece.

I have been selfish. I cannot deny that. But I only have one life to lead and no dependants. I desperately needed to go away and rethink my life. I may live for another 37 years and it would be foolish to carry on doing things for which I haven't either the aptitude or perhaps the desire. After realising how inadequate my performance in Cell Mates was, I'm afraid I suffered a dreadful attack of what golfers call the yips and actors call stage fright and I slunk away rather than cause a scene in public. Basically, I couldn't stand the heat, so escaped from the kitchen. The fact that I did so — the inadequacy of my acting aside — perhaps shows that I am not cut out for the business I have been engaged in for the last 15 years. But the reviews and sense of failure were, I think, only the straw that broke this camel's back. For years now I have been incapable of saying 'no' and have allowed my work to become my life.

I am offering this to the press in the hope that they will accept that I am not a Lord Lucan or a Reggie Perrin. While I have hurt and distressed those closest to me, it is for me to come to terms with them in private. I hope you will allow me a little space and solitude now. I could not bear to be 'tracked down' by the media. If you can accept my assurances of good health and mental stability perhaps you can leave it at that and give up any idea of finding and confronting me. In time, I will have to return and no doubt face the music, but for the moment I need a little quietness, and if you could find it in yourselves to allow it me, I should be very grateful . . .

As for the Harley Street clinics and all the rest of it . . . you can be assured that while I do have a dentist in Harley Street, the only other occasion I have had cause to visit that thoroughfare was, ironically, for an insurance check-up for Cell Mates: these medicals are a requirement for all actors these days when engaging in long periods of work. I have not been seeking professional (or amateur) help for mental distress or anything else. While I have been very unhappy and distraught, this 'disappearance' is not a result of anything too violent or neurotic. Not so much a nervous breakdown, more a nervous stalling.

I'm a silly old fool and I don't deserve this attention. Thank you and sorry."

Actor apologises, page 1
Bernard Levin, page 18

Major argues to keep Scots in Union

By Philip Webster
Political Editor

JOHN MAJOR last night strove to force back the tide of Scottish nationalism with a warning that devolution would be a "Trojan horse to independence".

He told an audience in Glasgow that it was his duty to point out the damage devolution could do. He did not want to see Scottish people sleepwalking into a decision that would weaken Scotland and throw away the opportunities earned over the past two decades.

He said he was ready to pay the electoral price of standing up for the Union, referring to large majority of Labour MPs in Scotland who might be sent from Westminster to a Scottish assembly if he went along with devolution. The unity of the United Kingdom was worth fighting for, he said.

With the Government facing the loss of the Perth and Kinross seat to the Scottish National Party in a by-election, Mr Major spent a day in Scotland defending his decision to refuse devolution while granting it to Northern Ireland as part of the peace proposals unveiled this week. He provoked fierce reaction with Alex Salmond, the SNP leader, contrasting his statesmanship over Ireland with his "narrow partisanship" over Scotland. Charles Kennedy, the Liberal Democrat MP, attacked Mr Major's "patronising and offensive" remarks.

During a radio interview and in the speech last night, Mr Major took head-on the supposed contradiction between his stances on Northern Ireland and Scotland. He said the circumstances and history of Scotland and Northern Ireland were completely different. The proposed Ulster assembly was not tax-raising, Northern Ireland had had 300 years of sectarian strife, no real local government system, and its main political parties were unlikely to form a government, unlike Scotland.

Mr Major said there had been "remarkable devolution of authority" to the Scottish Office. "I believe the sort of devolution proposed by Labour and the sort of separation advocated by the SNP would be desperately damaging." He mocked Labour by quoting Neil Kinnock "speaking some time ago" on devolution — "that you can have unity without disunity, that the best way to stand up to the nationalists is to lie down in front of them".

Mr Major said: "My fear is that the nature of devolution proposed would be but a stepping stone to separation of Scotland from the rest of the UK. It would also be desperately damaging, economically, to the economic welfare of Scotland." A tax-raising assembly would add £6 a week to tax bills and create "more regulation, more bureaucracy, mean less inward investment, and a much weaker voice in Europe".

Mr Major hinted that the government might offer some measures in Scotland but suggested that none were imminent. Referring to the Government's "taking stock" package of adminstrative changes, he said: "There will be other small changes in the pipeline but at the moment I have no substantial changes to announce beyond that."

NEWS IN BRIEF

RN press officers cleared of charges

Two Ministry of Defence civil servants who were suspended from their jobs for eight months while police investigated their expenses claims have been cleared of all charges.

David Harris, a Royal Navy press officer based at Plymouth, was investigated by Ministry of Defence police for including drinks valued at £2.40 on an expenses form after entertaining local journalists. The other press officer, Steve Willmot, was suspended over a claim for a subsistence allowance when he was travelling as part of his job. Yesterday David Jamieson, Labour MP for Plymouth Devonport, put the cost of the investigation at £50,000.

Desert Princess

The Princess Royal finished sixteenth in a 21-mile ride across the desert yesterday, ahead of 24 Arab riders. She completed the Desert Challenge Endurance Race in the United Arab Emirates in 68 minutes. Shaikh Mohamed al-Maktoum, the racehorse owner who had lent the Princess one of his horses, pulled up in the final quarter of the race because his mount was tired.

Dame Jill to quit

Dame Jill Knight, the right-wing backbencher, last night told her Conservative association in Birmingham Edgbaston that she will stand down at the next election. Dame Jill, 67, has held the seat since 1966. In 1992 she polled 18,500, a majority of 4,300 over the Labour candidate.

Radio 1 sacking

Radio 1 yesterday sacked DJ Bruno Brookes and hired two new presenters from rival stations in the latest move to boost ratings. Mr Brookes has presented the breakfast show for the past three years. The new faces are Wendy Lloyd, 25, from Virgin 1215, and "Dangerous" Chris Pearce, from Kiss FM.

Murder inquiry

Steven Grieveson, 23, of Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, who is accused of murdering three teenagers, is being questioned by Northumbria police about the death of a fourth boy. He was re-arrested as he was being taken to court for a remand hearing. The boy was 14 when he was murdered in 1990.

Benn wins case

The breach of contract action brought against the boxer Nigel Benn by his former trainer Brian Lynch was dismissed in the High Court. Mr Justice Kennedy accepted that Benn had never signed a seven-year contract promising Mr Lynch 10 per cent of his earnings inside and outside the ring.

Foot to sue

The former Labour leader Michael Foot is to sue over allegations that he was a KGB spy, his solicitor announced. Libel proceedings have been issued against Rupert Murdoch, Times Newspapers Ltd and News Group Newspapers Ltd over articles in *The Sunday Times* and *News of the World*.

Ferry blockade lifted as British company offers to replace Polish crew

Mediators move in as French seamen agree to negotiate

By Jonathan Prynn

A MOB of 200 French seamen clashed with riot police at Boulogne harbour yesterday on the second day of their strike against a British ferry company's use of low-wage Polish sailors.

Police with riot shields and rifles fired tear-gas to disperse the bottle-throwing demonstrators, who had attempted to seal off the harbour by setting light to barricades on approach roads. A pall of acrid smoke hung over the Channel port as strikers threw tyres, wooden pallets and oil-drums on to the barricades to stoke up the fires.

More than 100 armed Ministry of Defence riot police stood and watched, intervening only when the crowd attempted to storm the offices of Meridian, the small British ferry company at the centre of the dispute. However, a spokesman for Meridian, whose Boulogne manager has received death threats, said his company's four ferry services had operated normally. A company representative is due to meet French government-appointed mediator Jean-Yves Hamon on Monday to try to reach a compromise with the three French maritime unions in dispute. "We are extremely angry that it has taken four weeks for the French government to take this action after it has pretended there is nothing going on," said Kevin Root, manager of UK operations.

The company has offered to replace some of its 130 Polish crew members with more expensive British seamen but the compromise has been rejected by French union leaders. At Calais services were returning to normal after a 23-hour blockade by the strikers was lifted. The P&O ship *Pride of Bruges* was the first back into the French port when it docked at 12.15 yesterday afternoon with almost 1,000 passengers aboard. By 4pm five Dover to Calais ferries were back to a normal service on the 75-minute route. They had been diverted to the Belgian port of Zeebrugge from where the crossing to England takes four hours. About 24,000 ferry passengers passed through Zeebrugge on Thursday and yesterday with long queues of traffic building up around the town.

A spokesman for Stena Sealink said his company's Dover to Calais services had returned to normal by late evening. The company's two French-crewed ships *Fiesta* and *Cote d'Azur* were held at Calais until the strike officially ended at 8pm last night but its other three vessels, *Stena Fantasia*, *Stena Challenge* and the *Stena Invicta* were back to their normal timetable by teatime.



French riot police confronted hundreds of rioting demonstrators in Boulogne

Protestants urge leaders to talk

By Philip Webster

THE people of Northern Ireland are optimistic about the prospects of the London-Dublin accord and keen for their leaders to engage in talks with the Government, a survey released last night showed.

The first poll of opinion since Wednesday's publication of the Anglo-Irish framework document suggested that a significant majority view the plans as a basis for lasting peace. It suggested a feeling among supporters of all parties that their leaders should not now break off relations with the Government.

However, the survey, carried out by Ulster Marketing Surveys for *Channel 4 News*, also confirms Unionist suspicions about the plans: 58 per cent of Protestants interviewed suggested they would eventually lead to a united Ireland. A role for the Irish Republic in the affairs of Northern Ireland would be unacceptable to 68 per cent of Protestants.

When asked if their leaders should take part in talks with the Government, 87 per cent said that they should. Some 81 per cent of supporters of the Ulster Unionist Party thought its leaders should talk.

When asked if the framework document's proposals would lead to peace or violence, nearly two-thirds of those who expressed a view thought the proposals would form the basis for peace.

James Molyneaux, leader of the Ulster Unionists, last night accused John Major of ending his party's relationship with the Government by publishing the "disastrous" Anglo-Irish document. The UUP's executive rejected it.

Grozny

continued from page 1

record in this war has been lamentable.

Our particular Spetsnaz unit — called SOBR, or the Special Rapid Reaction Force — is not an army unit at all, but is made up of special policemen, thrown together two months ago from half a dozen different regional police units similar to the American SWAT groups.

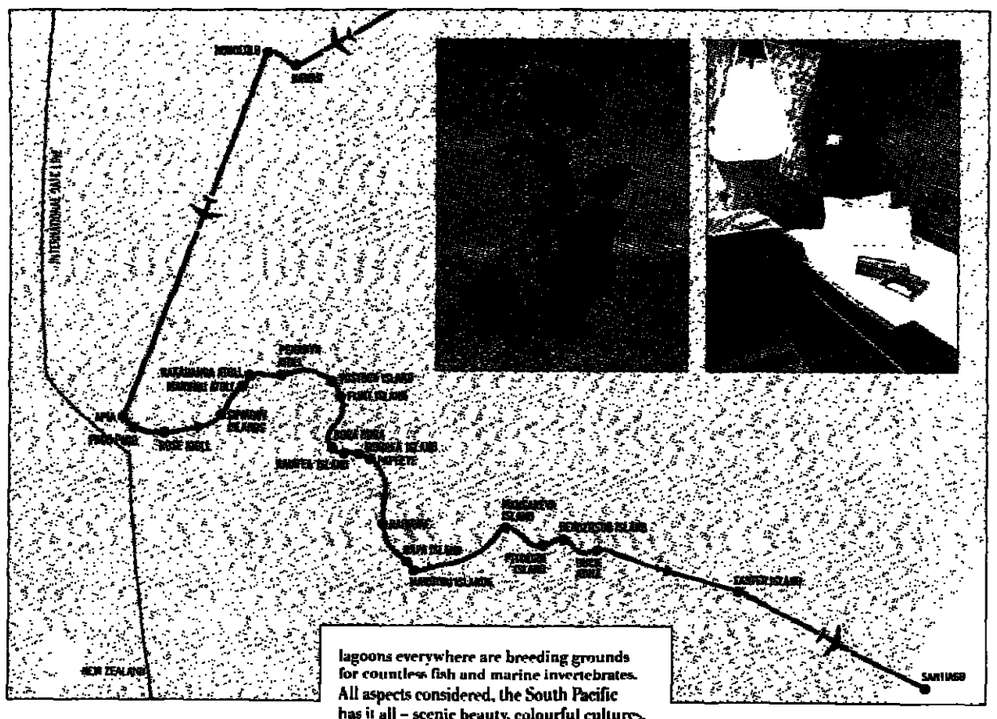
SOBR expresses a mixture of sympathy and contempt for the army conscripts: "They should have used us professionals at the beginning, instead of sending those wretched 18-year-old kids to be slaughtered," Andrei, SOBR commander, told me.

The unhappy Chechen population of Grozny greatly prefers the special forces and the Interior Ministry troops. As one middle-aged Chechen, Magomet, said: "It is the young Russian kids with guns who are really dreadful. They're terrified, they get blind drunk, and then they can shoot you for nothing or destroy your home for fun. The Interior Ministry men are more restrained".

We may owe our lives to that difference.

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'Physician could not cure himself of illness which caused him to do this dreadful act'

Mental hospital for GP who killed his daughter

BY LIN JENKINS

A GP addicted to alcohol and tranquillisers battered his student daughter to death before booby-trapping his house and fleeing to France, a court was told yesterday.

Dr Patrick Alesworth was sent to a mental hospital for an indefinite period after Reading Crown Court had been told of the "Greek tragedy" that led to his daughter Sara being bludgeoned and stabbed to death. The doctor travelled to France on a ferry and was eventually cornered by French police after trying to hijack a car.

The court was also told that Dr Alesworth's family and colleagues had stood by him since the killing. His wife Jane and his eldest daughter Emma, 23, held hands and wept as sentence was passed. A third daughter, Kathleen, was not in court. The court was told that Dr Alesworth had a history of mental illness and believed that his career was in ruins when he attacked Sara, 20, on April 13 last year at the family home in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire.

He repeatedly beat her around the head with a club hammer before stabbing her three times with a kitchen knife as she was dying from head injuries. He then killed Jessie, the family spaniel and set electrical timing devices and cut gas pipes in the house



Sara Alesworth: hit with club hammer

in an effort to destroy his home and kill himself and his family.

Mr Justice Morison said he accepted that Alesworth was in a psychotic state, irrational and suffering delusions at the time. Otherwise, he would have sentenced him to 20 years in prison. Instead, he placed him under a restriction order "unlimited in time because I take the view that you may well require to be confined in hospital indefinitely".

Alesworth, 48, pleaded guilty to manslaughter on the ground of diminished responsibility. Brian Barker, QC, for the prosecution, said no motive could be found for the "bizarre and baffling" killing. Alesworth had a "repressed history, a depressive illness and dependency on alcohol and tranquillisers, sometimes illegally prescribed by Dr Alesworth himself".

Alesworth, a principal GP for 18 years at the Elmhurst practice in Aylesbury, retired in 1993 because of ill health. The following year he was working for the doctors deputising service. Sara was on Easter vacation from Bournemouth University. There was no animosity between her and her father.

"She was particularly concerned for his welfare, a fact which he knew," Mr Barker said. But she was killed after her mother and sister Kathleen, 17, had left for work and school respectively, shortly after Alesworth awoke worrying about his work.

"He resolved to kill himself and his family and a voice in his head was telling him to kill." He battered Sara on the landing with a club hammer inflicting 14 blows to her head and stabbed her with the kitchen knife before dragging her into the bedroom and killing the dog. Afterwards, he cancelled his work, telephoned his wife and asked when she would be home and then bought some false number plates for his car. Kathleen arrived home to find a note on the door saying there had been a gas leak and not to go in before six o'clock. She went to a neighbour who telephoned Mrs Alesworth. When she arrived home she asked a neighbour to call police and saw her husband coming round the side of the house looking "emotionless and ashen". She found her daughter's body and tried to telephone police from the bedroom, but the line had been cut. Alesworth's car was blocked in so he took his wife's and drove away. He was spotted on the Portsmouth-St Malo ferry and arrested in France.

Two of the timing devices in the house activated, setting fire to paper deliberately littered around a toaster. The fires were extinguished by police officers who broke in.

When Alesworth was found he had a bottle of vodka and a syringe in his car and was the worse for drink and drugs. Tests showed alcohol and the drug prozac in his blood.

Alan Mainds, QC, for the defence, said: "He was the physician who could not cure himself from an illness of the mind which which caused him to do this dreadful act. It is only to be hoped that the profession he served so well for 25 years can restore his sanity so that his surviving daughters can see it is their father's illness that took their sister away."

RICHARD KERR





Alesworth is led from court. Below, his wife Jane and daughter Emma

TIMES SPORT on Monday



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Missing boy, 14, phones home from Malaysia

BY RICHARD DUCE

A BOY of 14 who ran away from home after "slight arguments" with his parents telephoned them two days later to say he was stranded 7,000 miles away in Malaysia with no money.

Peter Kerry, whose ambition is to be an airline pilot, had taken his father John's credit card and passport and booked himself on a £500 flight to Kuala Lumpur at Heathrow Airport on Tuesday. Peter, who has previously run away to Edinburgh and Paris from his home in northwest London, was last night still believed to be in Southeast Asia, although his parents have no idea where.

On Thursday night he telephoned his mother, Pat, from a hotel 200 miles from Kuala Lumpur after being refused a bed because by then the card had been cancelled. The call was cut off and since then there has been no contact with him.

Police in Malaysia and Singapore have been alerted by Interpol to look out for the fair-haired grammar school boy. His parents, who both work at Heathrow, are hoping their son can make his way back to an airport because police checks have revealed he bought an open-ended return ticket.

Mr Kerry, 59, of South Harrow, said he was not sure why Peter had run away again. "It might have been two slight arguments during the day which made him go. He is a very intelligent boy but he is a dreamer and he very much likes to go off on his own. He is very interested in travel. He has done a great deal of travelling all over the country in trains and has also travelled to France on his own."

Peter was at home alone on Tuesday night while his mother was working and his father took his brother Michael, 11, and sister Helen, 8, to the Arsenal-Nottingham Forest football match. The family returned and believed him to be in bed. Next day there was no sign of him and he was reported missing at 9.15.

As far as Peter's movements can be traced, he made his way to Heathrow and then managed to book himself on the 10pm Malaysian Airlines flight to Kuala Lumpar. By 9.20pm on Thursday he had made his way 200 miles south across country to the Puteri Pan Pacific hotel in Johor Baharu on the border with Singapore. It was there that the hotel ran a check on his father's Barclaycard and found it had been cancelled.

Mrs Kerry said last night: "They were going to chuck him out and he sounded very worried. Our conversation was very brief, it was broken off. Why he chose Malaysia I don't know, I think it was just the opportunity that he got at the airport."

The hotel, confirming last night that Peter had tried to book in but did not have enough money, said: "He was alone but we don't know where he went."

The Foreign Office said: "The last we heard he was still in Malaysia. As soon as he is spotted we will hopefully be able to offer our assistance and make arrangements to get him home."



Mr and Mrs Kerry with a photograph of their son — "a dreamer who likes to go off on his own"

Bank computer clerk tried to transfer £31m abroad

BY RICHARD DUCE

A CLERK at the National Westminster Bank who hacked into his company computer to transfer more than £31 million into a Swiss account was trapped by the "dazzling" size of the transaction, a court was told yesterday.

Jeffrey Lennon, 23, was caught because he did not know that the Bank Crédit Suisse in Zurich could not authorise the money's further movement to a Swiss account, as it had a lending limit of $30 million with Lennon's employers.

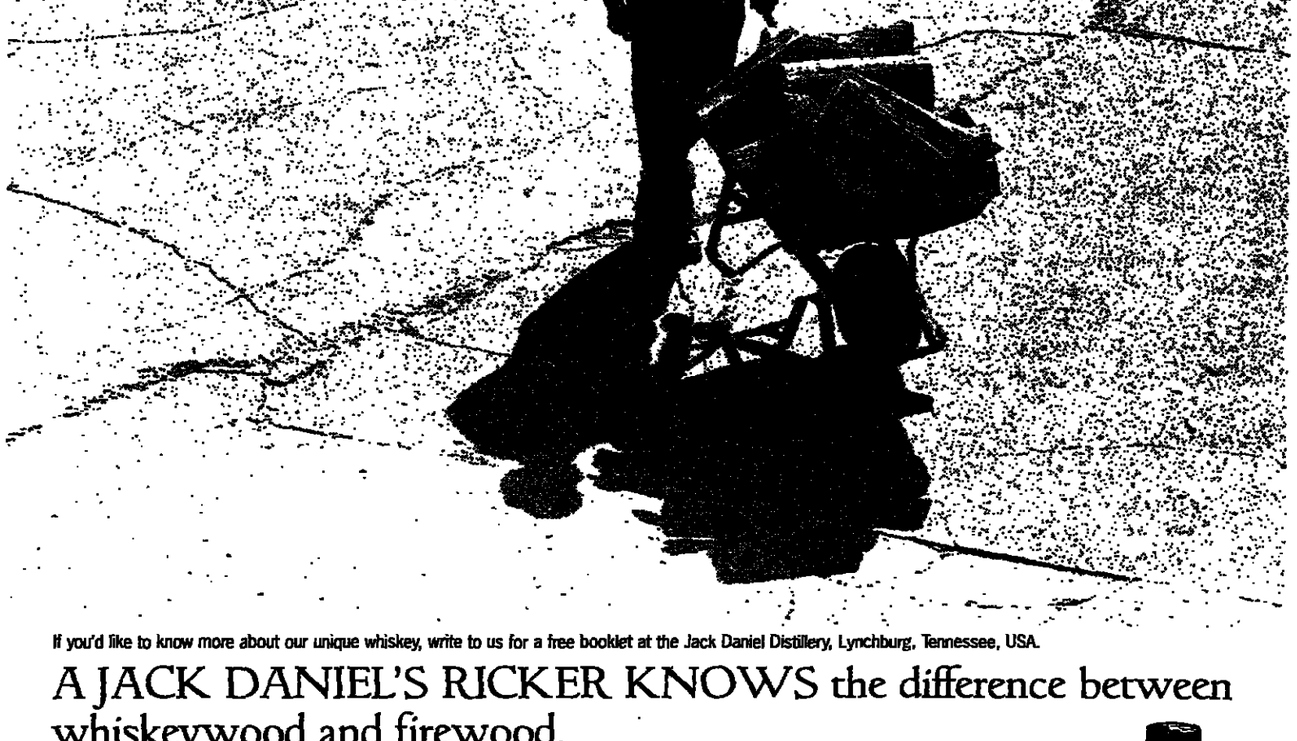
After his arrest Lennon said that two underworld figures had approached him to help them in the fraud and that he was frightened of what might happen to him if he refused. His share from the plot was to be £4.2 million. Detective Sergeant Gregory Falkland said Lennon was a "mechanic" in the plot and inquiries were continuing to identify the others involved. Lennon, a commercial loans clerk of Forest Gate, east London, admitted at Southwark Crown Court conspiring to steal 70 million Swiss francs (£31.8 million) between August 1 and September 23, 1993. He will be sentenced on Tuesday.

Nicholas Loraine-Smith, for the prosecution, said that Lennon, who had worked for NatWest from the age of 16, used someone else's computer password to authorise the money transfer. After the alarm was raised it was remembered that on the day of the transfer he had been in a part of the NatWest building in Islington, north London, where he had no authorisation to be.

Mr Loraine-Smith said Lennon at first protested his innocence but then confessed, saying that men he knew only as Iri and Marshall had told him "big people" were involved. He had been scared into going along with the plan. An account had been set up at the Banco del Gottardo in Lugano under the false name of Kirk Gisstler. "I knew ten days before that I was into something that I just could not handle or what the consequences were or what would happen to my friends and family if I pulled out."

Timothy Langdale, QC, representing Lennon, said that he was full of remorse. He urged Judge Rivlin, QC, not to be blinded by the "telephone-number sized" amount. The judge retorted: "But it is pretty dazzling, isn't it?" Mr Langdale said that Lennon was "acting under considerable pressure and out of his depth".

Mr Loraine-Smith said Lennon had been recruited to the commercial loans department because of his expertise with their advanced computer system. He carried out the final stages of money transfers. He told police: "I'm the last person. I send the payments. I hit the button and it goes."



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JACK DANIEL'S TENNESSEE WHISKEY

James Herriot spawned a multimillion-pound industry but the real vet had few trappings of wealth

Yorkshire town mourns its shy and modest celebrity

By Kate Alderson and Marianne Curphey

JAMES HERRIOT generated a multimillion-pound industry from 23 bestselling books but the vet known in Thirsk as Alf Wight lived a modest life in a £150,000 farmhouse. There was uncertainty yesterday over how much money Mr Wight, who died on Thursday, made from the books that sold 30 million copies worldwide and were made into 50 television programmes and two films.

Royalties of up to 15 per cent for every book he wrote will continue to be paid to his family, who hold the copyright. He leaves a widow, Joan, a son James, who runs the veterinary practice at Thirsk, a daughter Rosie Page, who is a GP in the town, and four grandchildren: Emma, Nicholas, Zoë and Katrina.

The practice, co-founded by Mr Wight in 1939, was open for business as usual yesterday. Joanne Richardson, a nurse, said that it had been inundated with telephone calls from clients past and present expressing their condolences. One woman, who brought a lamb into the surgery for treatment: "I have been coming here for 36 years and I'm devastated by his death."



Thirsk, where Alf Wight practised, was known in his books as Darrowby

Mrs Wight and her son were in Glasgow yesterday to open a £330,000 veterinary library at Glasgow University where Alf Wight trained. In the days leading up to his death he asked his son, who also trained at Glasgow, to honour their pledge to open the James Herriot library.

Farmers spoke fondly yesterday of a dedicated friend: Bertram Bosomworth, 82, a dairy farmer from Thirsk, was an early client. "He was everything: the perfect gentleman, a very good vet and a great friend," he said. "He was my vet for 50 years and I remember him as a relaxed young man, confident and sensible, when he first visited and treated a sick calf."

The success of the James Herriot books did not adversely affect the man his friends knew as charming and shy. Locals were happy to shield him from tourists, denying knowledge of where he lived and worked.

John Crooks, 67, Mr Wight's former pupil and assistant and the only person referred to in the books by his real name, described his mentor's death as an immense loss. "Alf and I just clicked, he was the most wonderful man.

"We used to drive to jobs across the Dales in his Morris Minor with the hood pulled down. His children, Jim and Rosie, would be in the back seat and a little dog on my lap in the front.

"We would sing our hearts out as we drove across country, eating our ice-creams. He was such a great family man and when I had my own children I tried to be like him. You could have no better role model."

In his converted farmhouse at Thirlby, near Thirsk, Mr Wight kept a copy of all the different editions of his books in dozens of languages, but was reluctant to publicise his achievements. Mr Crooks said: "I remember when he received yet another award for life-long service. He hadn't put it on the wall in his house and I asked him why. He replied: 'It looks a bit like I'm showing off. I don't want people to think I'm a show-off.'"

DAVID THOMSON



Vet John Crooks with his dog Bess: "Alf was the most wonderful man"

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Tories set to double borough's local tax

By Ian Murray

WANDSWORTH is to more than double its council tax next year. The ruling Conservatives agreed last night that the loss of £17 million in special government aid meant it could no longer set the lowest rates in England.

The 134 per cent increase will be rubber-stamped by the full council next week. Levels are set to rise inexorably in future years as special help for the borough is phased out.

Ten years ago the council was charging less local tax than any other London borough. Its poll tax levels and later its council tax levels were the lowest on mainland Britain. Last year householders in Band D property had to pay only £139. This year they will pay £326.

The main reason is that the borough has lost £10 million of the £21 million extra government aid it was granted last year to cushion the effects of transition from poll tax to council tax. Another £5 million in grants to alleviate poverty and £2 million for education have also been taken away, leaving the borough with £17 million less than it had a year ago.

Since the rate would therefore have to rise, the Tory group decided to take the opportunity of paying off £45 million of debt at the same time. This will be done by drawing £27 million from reserves and raising £18 million from council tax, leaving the debt at £15 million and reducing the sum needed to service the loan. "This will enable us to keep down council tax bills in future years," Maurice Heaster, chairman of the policy and finance committee, said yesterday.

Tony Belton, leader of the Labour group, said: "This is the beginning of the end of government handouts to Wandsworth. Other Tory councils have been angry at how Wandsworth has been treated in the past. The fantasy days are coming to an end." Wandsworth could have used part of its reserves to keep the council tax down, he said. "What they are doing is paying off the 'mortgage' before the next council elections."

Labour questions nursery policy

By Ben Preston

LABOUR yesterday accused the Government of speaking with two voices on nursery education after Conservative backbenchers were urged to question councils which expanded provision for the under-fives.

David Blunkett, the shadow Education Secretary, made the charge after the leak of a private letter from Gillian Shephard to parliamentary colleagues disclosed her strategy to deflect criticism of threatened school budget cuts.

The Education Secretary detailed questions which Conservative MPs might ask in an attempt to switch the blame for any teacher redundancies on to local education authorities. These included, according to *The Times Educational Supplement*: "To what extent is the local education authority expanding non-statutory services (eg, under-fives) at the expense of statutory services?"

Mr Blunkett said: "At the Conservative party conference, the Prime Minister promised that there would be nursery places for all four-year-olds. Now Mrs Shephard is urging backbenchers to attack those councils which have sought to provide those places."

A spokesman for Mrs Shephard said she was making clear that local authorities must make the protection of statutory education services their priority in what was a tough local government spending round.



Shephard: leaked letter

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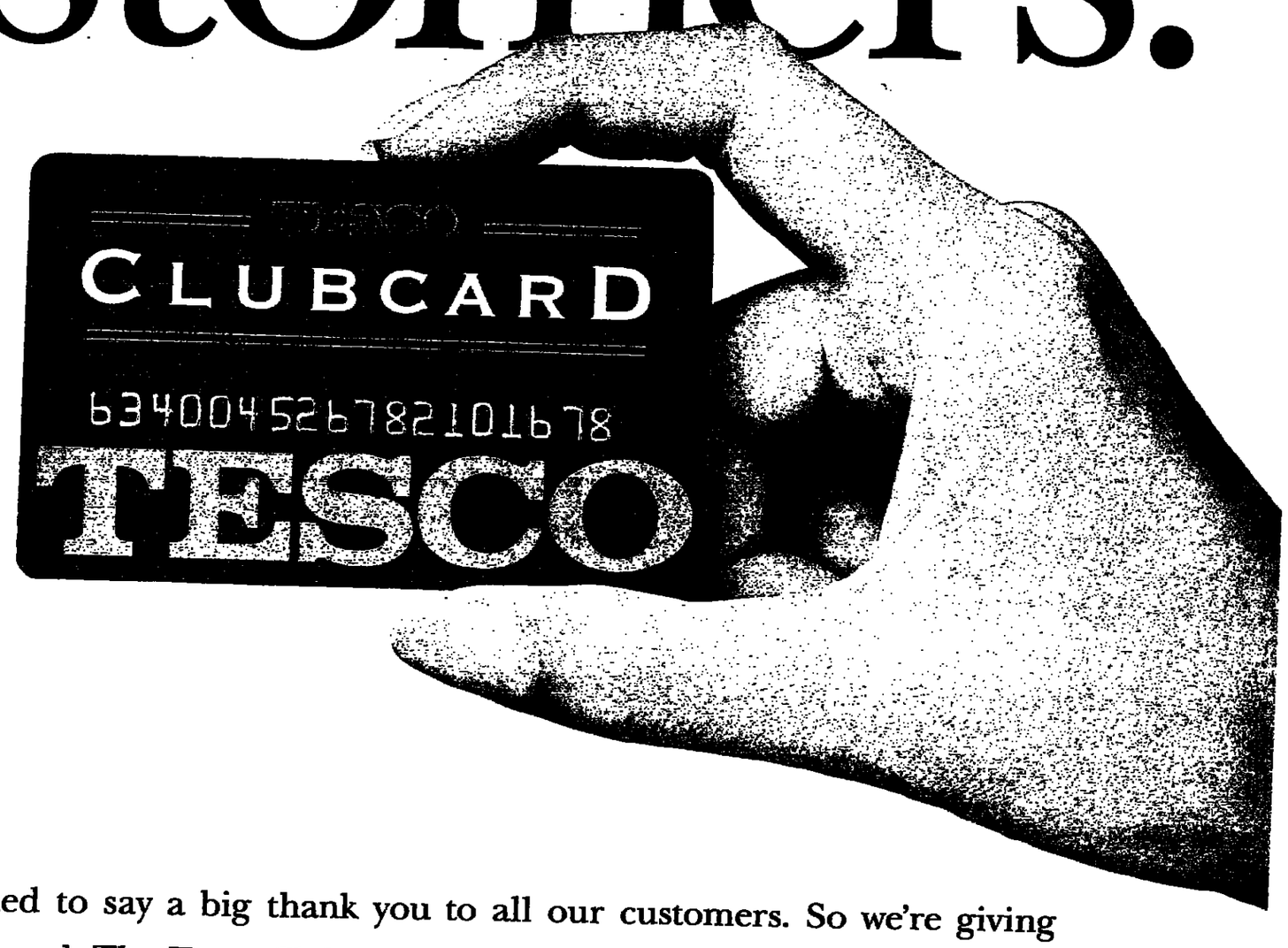
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Recuperating friends share unusual bond after 'domino' operation transfers organs

Transplant patients discover they have a heart in common

BY JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

TWO soccer supporters who woke up in neighbouring hospital beds after simultaneous heart transplants found that they had more in common than a love of football: the same heart had beaten in both their chests.

Chris Duffy, 20, and Michael Cheeseman, 13, became friends while recuperating in Harefield Hospital after having surgery a week ago. Their friendship was sealed when Mr Duffy discovered that his heart had been transplanted into Michael.

Mr Duffy, a sufferer from the inherited disorder cystic fibrosis, was given the heart and lungs of a road crash victim in an operation carried out by Sir Magdi Yacoub. His heart was then transplanted into Michael, who was suffering from a hole-in-the-heart condition. The double operation took eight hours. Doctors had told both patients that they needed surgery urgently. Mr Duffy's consultant told him that he had been living on borrowed time for seven years.

Cystic fibrosis damages the lungs of sufferers but the heart is unaffected. However, transplanting the heart and lungs together is simpler than transplanting the lungs separately. The operation therefore yields a spare healthy heart which can be used in a "domino" transplant.

Dr Martin Scott, medical administrator of the Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust, said: "The plumbing is more straightforward with the heart and lungs together. The unit plugs in more quickly."

Mr Duffy, from Blackwood, Gwent, and Michael, from Liverpool, were both called at the same time when the original donor organs became available. They met for the first time 48 hours after the surgery.

Mr Duffy said: "It's a strange feeling, but it's like I've found a long-lost brother. It's peculiar to think someone else is walking around with my heart beating inside him. The strangest thing of all is we get on incredibly well.

"I feel as if I've known Michael for years. One thing is for certain, Michael's going to have a wicked time with my heart because I've put it through hell."

There are 6,500 sufferers from cystic fibrosis in Britain. In the early stages of the disease the congestion in the lungs caused by the overproduction of mucus can be cleared with regular physiotherapy but as the condition worsens breathing is more difficult. Ultimately a transplant is the only treatment.

HUW EVANS



Chris Duffy, left, has a donor's heart and lungs while his former heart beats in Michael Cheeseman's chest

Nurses attack 'greedy' charge

Nurses registered with an agency providing private community care are being charged 40p on their payslips for administration. Yesterday Jenny Dearlove, 40, a spokeswoman for the nurses, who earn under £3 an hour, described Allied Medicare of Stone, Staffordshire, as greedy.

A director of the agency, which has an annual turnover of £10 million, said: "The 40p charge covers all our administration costs that we incur when trying to find work for these nurses."

Glen Coe search

Hopes faded for three climbers missing in the Glen Coe area of the Scottish Highlands yesterday. An intensive search continued for the three men from Yorkshire, thought to have been buried by an avalanche on Buachaille Etive Mór.

Officer sentenced

A Thames Valley policeman who punched a drunken motorist he was trying to arrest was jailed for four months at Inner London Crown Court and ordered to pay his victim £200. James Kemp, 27, of Henley-on-Thames, denied causing actual bodily harm.

'Dead' man jailed

A man who faked his death to avoid a drink-driving charge was jailed for 18 months. Alan Smith, 61, of Yateley, Hampshire, had four previous convictions for the offence and was serving a three-year ban when stopped by police last year.

Aid for family

The family of an illegal immigrant serving a ten-year jail sentence for drug dealing have been granted legal aid to fight his deportation. Arshad Mahmood, 37, faces immediate expulsion when he is released on parole in a few weeks.

Gas pair treated

An eight-months pregnant woman and her boyfriend were treated in a decompression chamber after inhaling fumes thought to have leaked from their gas central heating. Claire Preece, 18, and Lee Simpson, 21, of Cardiff, were treated at Plymouth.

Museum move

Duncan Robinson, 51, director of the Yale Center for British art at Newhaven, Connecticut, is to be the new director of the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge. He succeeds Simon Jervis, who is joining the National Trust.

Hewitt in court as defence witness

JAMES HEWITT yesterday made his first public appearance — as a defence witness in a murder trial — since telling the world of his alleged affair with the Princess of Wales.

Robert Smith, 33, served under Mr Hewitt, then a major in The Life Guards, during the Gulf War, the High Court in Edinburgh was told.

Mr Smith is one of three men accused of murdering David Dunn, 63, after a bank raid in Bonnyrigg, Lothian, last October. He has told the court that the weapon that killed Mr Dunn was an American-issue Glock pistol he brought back from the Gulf.

Mr Hewitt, 36, who described himself as a self-employed businessman living near Exeter, said he was aware of the bartering or exchange of equipment between forces in the Gulf campaign. It was quite common for British soldiers to acquire non-standard issue weapons and the Army's attitude to this was "fairly relaxed".

Mr Smith, of no fixed abode, Gerald McQuade, 40, of Glasgow, and Paul Bootland, 25, of Edinburgh, deny murdering Mr Dunn and attempting to murder three other men. They are also accused of robbing a bank of £185,000. The case continues.

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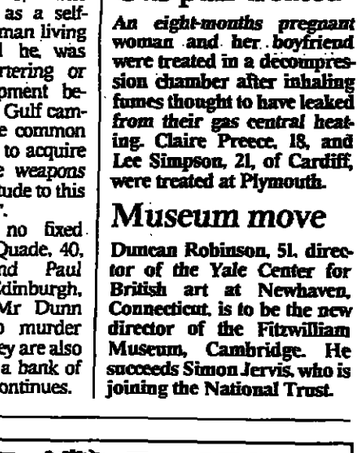
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One outstanding volume is *Brideshead Revisited* by Evelyn Waugh (ABC 350 – 10 cassettes). The reader is Jeremy Irons (pictured), who played Charles Ryder in the television adaptation. Waugh's most romantic and controversial work, the book describes Ryder's friendship with the charming and irrepressible Sebastian Flyte. Carefree days of champagne and country drives end as Flyte's health deteriorates and questions of morality and religion are raised.



Buy *Brideshead Revisited* for £16.95 and for 20p you could hear Christopher Timothy read *If Only They Could Talk* by James Herriot (ABC 955 – £14.95 – 8 cassettes). This was the first of Herriot's memoirs and describes his arrival in Darrowby when he went to work for Siegfried Farnon.

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THE TIMES
TOKEN 5

'They have confronted this disaster with remarkable courage and determination'

Miners paralysed by accident share £1.3m damages

BY A STAFF REPORTER

TWO miners who were left paralysed below the waist after a pit disaster in which two colleagues died were each awarded more than £650,000 in the High Court yesterday.

Alan Curry, 33, and Jeffrey Branson, 37, were among 70 men trapped 1,000 ft underground in February 1992 when a carriage taking them to the coalface at the now-closed Wearmouth Colliery, Sunderland, crashed. Doctors said they would never walk again.

The men were crushed against a roof tunnel when the carriage jack-knifed upwards. Rescuers fought for an hour to reach the trapped men, some of whom acted as human pitprops to protect their colleagues. The men who died were Eric Evans, 36, and Gerard Sumby, 39.

Ben Hytner, QC, for Mr Curry and Mr Branson, both from Sunderland and married with children, said: "Both still suffer severe pain and are still plagued by nightmares. They frequently recall the accident and become depressed, not just because of their paraplegic condition but because of the recollections of the deaths of their friends and the horror they went through.

"They were two young married men, both very fit." He said that their families had had to share the burden and their wives had become full-time carers.

British Coal admitted liability for the crash. Mr Curry, who was a keen footballer, and Mr Branson, a karate purple belt and a fellwalker, sat in their wheelchairs at Teesside Crown Court yesterday. Mr Curry was awarded a total of £652,982. Mr Branson received a total of £650,238.

Mr Branson was awarded £230,454 special damages, Mr Curry £223,763. The cost of care was £109,912 for Mr Branson, £93,262 for Mr Curry. They were each awarded more than £65,000 for accommodation. For loss of earnings Mr Curry was awarded £130,000 and Mr Branson £120,000.

The judge, Mr Justice Laws, paid tribute to the men's wives, Helen Curry and Yvonne Branson, "to whose loyalty, courage and devotion in the face of this sudden and brutal disaster this court wishes to pay tribute".

He added: "It is a remarkable tribute to the human spirit but, what is more important for my purposes, to the plaintiffs and their wives in particular that Mr Branson and Mr Curry have confronted the disaster which befell them with remarkable courage and determination. There was not a trace of self-pity in the evidence of either of them. Their positive attitude is due in no small measure to the support of their wives, and the mutual support which they have found in each other."

TOM FINNIE/TED DITCHBURN



Jeffrey Branson, left, with his wife Yvonne. Right, Alan Curry with his wife Helen and children Natasha and Aaron

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Exclusive: My story by Oleg Gordievsky

'The KGB net was closing around me, and I knew that if I did not break out of the great concentration camp of the Soviet Union within the next few weeks, I would die.



The time had come to activate the escape plan which MI6 had prepared for me and held in readiness for years ...'

First extracts from the memoirs of Oleg Gordievsky (pictured). Only in The Sunday Times tomorrow

Farming land lost to soil erosion

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

BILLIONS of tons of soil are being washed and blown away every year, damaging the Earth's ability to feed its growing population. The rate of soil erosion from agricultural land in Europe and America is 17 tons per hectare per year, Dr David Pimental of Cornell University reports in this week's issue of *Science*. New soil is created at the rate of only one ton per hectare.

In Africa, Asia and South America, average erosion rates are even higher, at 40 tons per hectare per year. As land is tilled and exposed, raindrops splash soil particles into the air. On sloping land, the particles are carried downhill, and winds can sweep them thousands of miles: soil particles from Africa have been found in Florida, and Chinese soil in Hawaii.

"We know what to do to control erosion, but we aren't doing it," Dr Pimental says. "Few people really appreciate the seriousness of the problem."

In Britain, the Council for the Protection of Rural England says, fields drilled to winter cereals are particularly vulnerable — 40 per cent of water erosion happens in these fields. Over-grazed uplands are also at risk, while wind erosion is a particular danger on flat, open expanses of sandy or peaty soils, such as those in East Anglia and the Vale of York.

The council called for vulnerable soils to be identified, a soil conservation unit established in the Ministry of Agriculture, and changes to make agricultural support payments conditional on good soil management.



Campbell: sacked for being greedy and rude

Campbell patches up catwalk quarrel

BY JOE JOSEPH

NAOMI CAMPBELL, one of those supermodels who don't get out of bed for less than $10,000, has just climbed back in with the agency that kicked her out for being too greedy, too abusive and too prone to tantrums.

John Casablancas, owner of the Elite agency in New York, swore in September 1993 that he would not employ Campbell, 24, again "if she were the last model on earth". He now says: "My professional instincts took over my pride."

Carole White, director of the agency's London arm, Elite Premier, said: "She and John settled their differences. Time heals everything."

This is all a long way from the statement issued by Elite New York at the time of their split: "Please be informed that we do not wish to represent Naomi Campbell any longer. No amount of money or prestige could further justify the abuse that has been imposed on our staff and clients. All who have experienced this will understand."

Windy Orkneys generate tourism

BY KERRY GILL

PROMOTING hurricane force winds and crashing seas as a holiday bonus would not appear to be the best method of attracting visitors, but the tourist board in the Orkney Islands is making the best of a difficult job by doing just that.

Orkney boasts some magnificent sandy beaches but, more often than not, they are lashed by torrential storms from the northern Atlantic. Howie Firth, an Orkney councillor and chairman of the economic development committee that helps to fund the tourist board, said islanders had noticed how many foreign visitors claimed to love the storms.

"Our weather is an experience never to be forgotten. A walk along an Orkney beach in a storm is every bit as exhilarating as climbing a mountain," he said.

Promotion of the appalling weather, alongside the wild scenery, rare birds and archaeological remains, seems to be working: foreign visitors have increased while tourism in other Scottish regions has fallen.

The idea of turning the traditional method of tourism promotion on its head came from Charles Tait, the tourist board chairman. "I was in a taxi in Spain and the driver said how much he had enjoyed his stay in Manchester, of all places," he said. "I asked him why, and he said he always visited a relative in Manchester because he loved the rain. I thought if Manchester could attract visitors with its rain, Orkney could do even better."

It certainly can. Winds can exceed 100mph and towering waves change the shape of beaches overnight. Winter mists shut off the island for days, but spring brings out the sun and huge fields carpeted with wild flowers.

"We tell tourists that you can get every season in a single day," Mr Tait said. "If you get a really good blow, you don't worry about losing anything as anything you could have lost has already been blown away."

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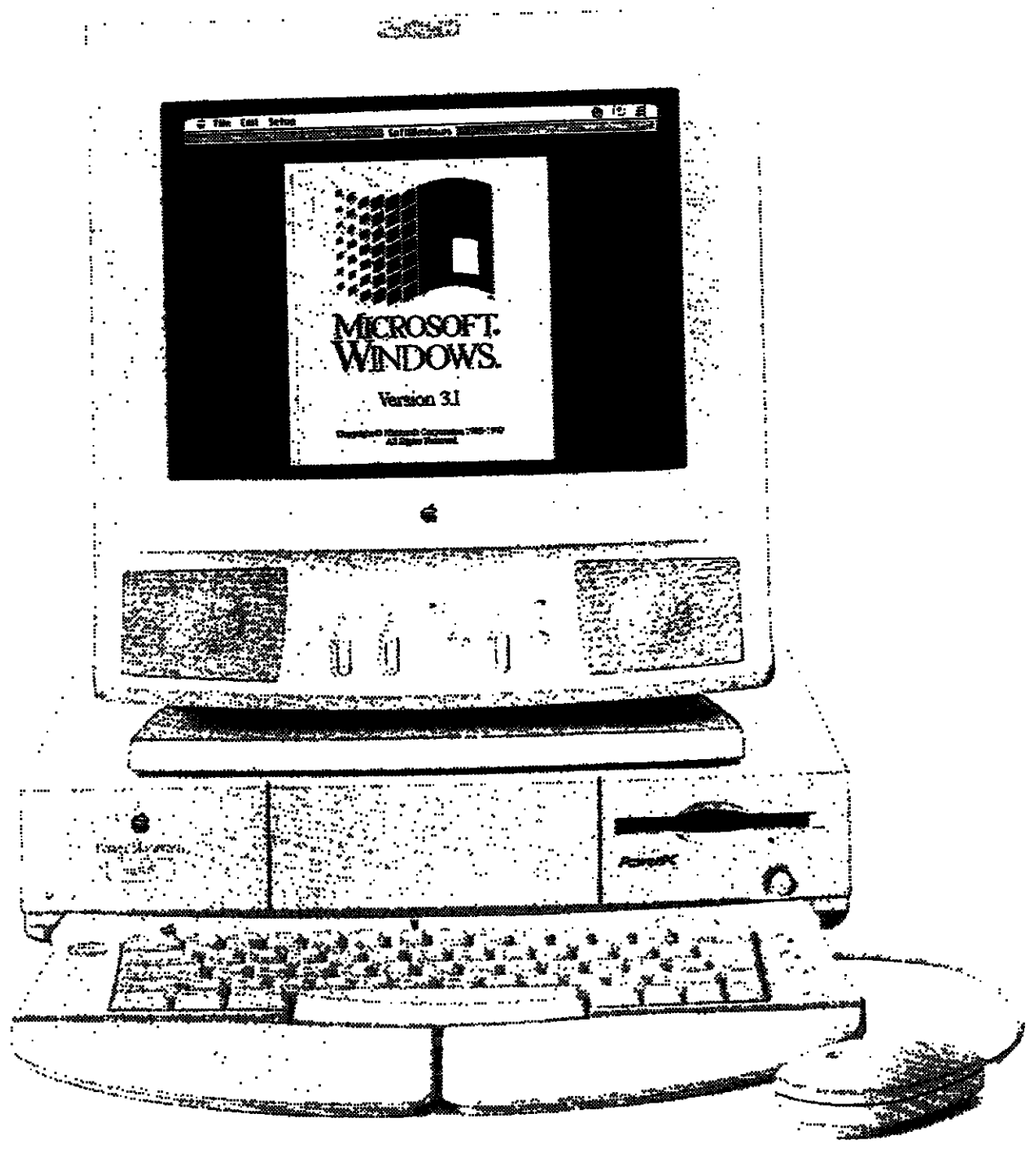
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FEBRUARY 25 19

Historian and actor take up positions to debate whereabouts of English archers on battlefield

Rival experts prepare to do battle over Agincourt



Henry V: victorious

By John Young

FIVE hundred and eighty years ago a 25,000-strong French army was routed by an English force less than a quarter its size on the field of Agincourt. Although the fact of the victory has never been in dispute, the method of its achievement has and will be the subject of what promises to be a heated debate in London tomorrow.

The two sides in the debate, which is being organised by the Battlefields Trust at the Tower of London Education Centre, are Matthew Bennett, senior lecturer in war studies at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, and the actor Robert Hardy, who is a leading authority on archery and, in particular, the use of the longbow.

The battle took place on a cramped, muddy field between two woods, factors which helped to nullify the French superiority in numbers. Victory is credited to the English archers who, protected from the advancing French cavalry by a line of stakes, were able to shoot them down and throw the attack into confusion as the retreating cavalry became entangled with the troops advancing from the rear.

The argument revolves around the exact position of the archers. In his recent book, *The Development of Battle Tactics in the Hundred Years War*, Mr Bennett suggests that the English men-at-arms were grouped in three phalanxes in the centre with the archers on the wings. As the French advanced they were caught in a deadly crossfire from the flanks.

Mr Hardy argues that the maximum range of the English archers was between 300 and 400 yards, so they would not have been able to reach the centre of the line, which stretched for at least 1,000 yards. He maintains that the archers were either positioned on the flanks of the three individual phalanxes or, more likely, strung out in a "coronet" across the entire front.

Yesterday the two men seemed to be moving closer to each other's view. Mr Bennett suggested that some groups of archers were placed in triangular formations between and slightly ahead of each phalanx, while Mr Hardy accepted that large numbers of archers were indeed on the wings, extending into the woods on either side.

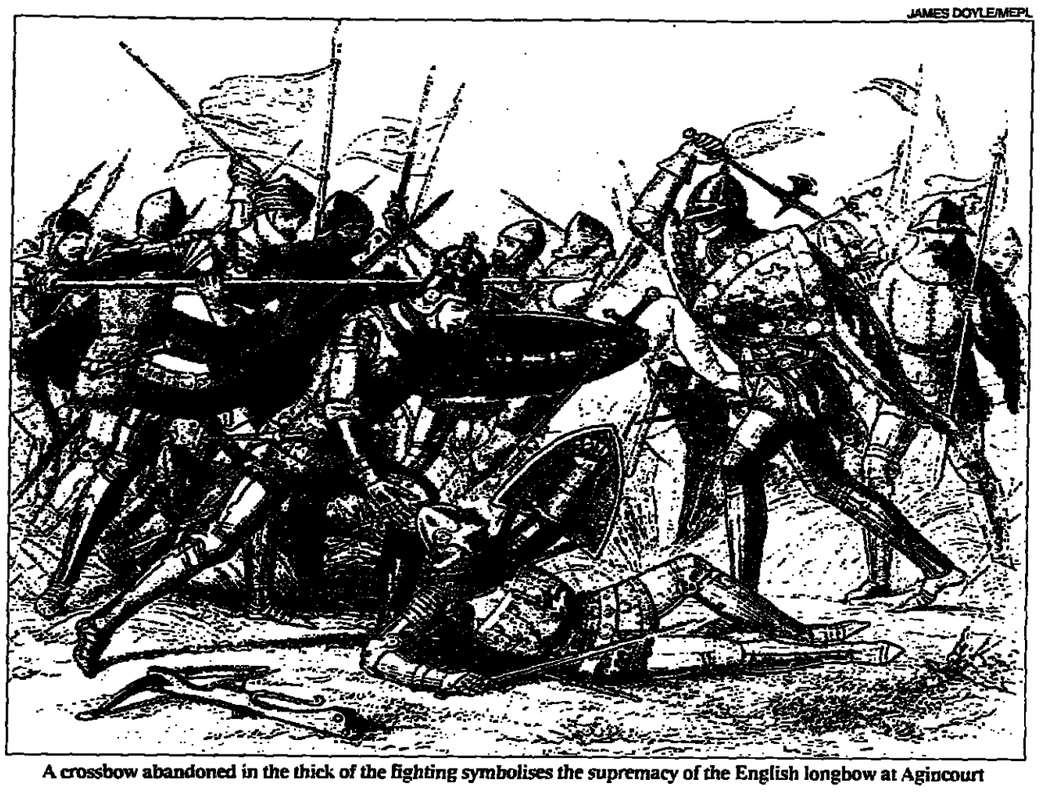
He said: "I am a great admirer of Mr Bennett's writings, but I think in his book he was wrong about the battle formation. If he has come round to my view, then we may well end up agreeing with each other."

Mr Bennett is certain of one thing, that Laurence Olivier's film of *Henry V* got it wrong. "It shows a mass French cavalry charge against the English line whereas they all dismounted after the first attempt," he said. "I shall be taking along a clip of the film to illustrate the error."

Agincourt has been described as possibly England's greatest military victory. In historical terms, such an assessment is difficult to quantify, but the statistical fact is that Henry V's 5,000 archers and 750 men-at-arms — "we few, we happy few, we band of brothers" — defeated an army of 22,000 knights and 3,000 crossbowmen under the command of Charles d'Albret, the Constable of France. The English suffered only a few hundred casualties, compared with between 5,000 and 6,000 French fighters killed, and the victory paved the way for the English occupation of large parts of France.

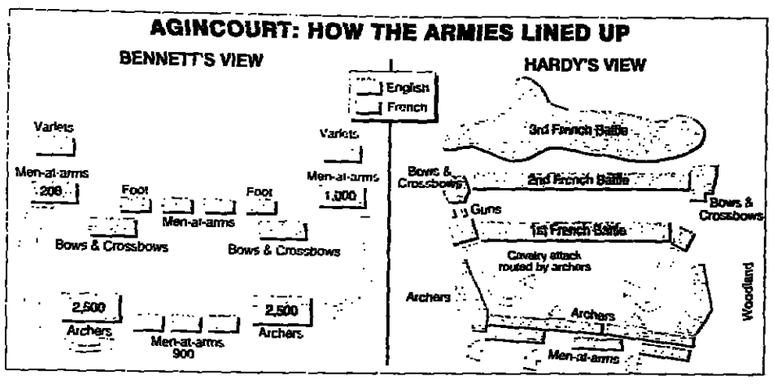
Limited tickets are available for the debate at 11am at Europa House, St Katherine's Way, London; telephone 0203 350763.

Leading article, page 19



JAMES DOYLE/MEPL

A crossbow abandoned in the thick of the fighting symbolises the supremacy of the English longbow at Agincourt



Bellamy condemns slaughter of badgers as a cruel waste

DAVID BELLAMY has condemned as a "cruel waste" the Agriculture Ministry's policy of killing badgers in an effort to stop bovine tuberculosis.

On the eve of a public debate about the controversial policy, he said that after 20 years of culling the disease was on the increase among cattle and there was no proof that badgers transmitted it.

The National Badger Group's call for an immediate halt to the killing prompted the meeting today, at Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust's conservation centre at Robinswood Hill, Gloucester. Badger lovers, farmers and landowners will take part. Dr John Smith, a ministry vet, will explain the culling policy at the meeting, and the badger expert Dr Warren Cresswell will speak against it.It is estimated that the culling will cost the Government more than £1 million this year.

☐ Conservationists yesterday warned motorists to watch out for amorous male badgers, who are wandering onto roads as they search for mates. Gloucestershire Badger Group said hundreds were being killed.



Bellamy: no proof that badgers pass on TB

Husband jailed for push that killed

By Kathryn Knight

A MAN whose wife died after he pushed her onto a concrete path during an argument was jailed for a year yesterday, despite pleas for a non-custodial sentence for the sake of their three-year-old son.

Simon Swanton, 27, from Calmore, Hampshire, was convicted of manslaughter earlier this month. His wife Donna, 29, died from a brain haemorrhage eight hours after falling during an argument in November 1993.

Yesterday James Wadsworth, QC, for the defence, told Winchester Crown Court that the couple's son Oliver would be devastated if his father were jailed. "Oliver is the victim in many ways already. He goes round looking for his mother and he does not yet know why she is not there." But Mr Justice Collins said he must give the crime the punishment it deserved.

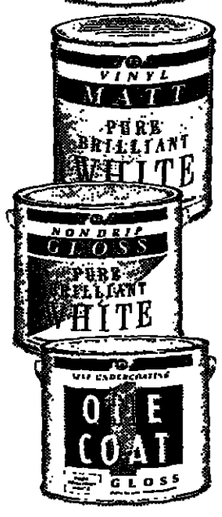
Oliver will be cared for by Mrs Swanton's mother, Renate Brown, 52, who condemned the sentence. "He [Mr Swanton] should have got at least five years," she said.



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NEWS IN BRIEF

Driver faces inquiry into Alps deaths

A British coach driver is to be questioned by Austrian police after his bus hit a group of pensioners near the Alpine resort of Zell am See, killing three. Gerald Knox, 59, of Bowburn, Co Durham, was driving a party of 44 British schoolchildren on Thursday when he swerved to avoid an oncoming vehicle and crashed into the pensioners. Several of the children were treated for shock and Mr Knox is being detained in hospital.

Petrol killer

William Sadlier, 44, an electrician from West Derby who doused a man and two women in petrol and burnt them to death over a £750 debt, was jailed for life after a jury at Liverpool Crown Court found him guilty of murder.

Case adjourned

A drink-driving case against the Everton footballer Duncan Ferguson was adjourned until March 17. Ferguson, 23, who was not obliged to appear before Liverpool magistrates, is charged with driving with excess alcohol.

Bailiff sentenced

Christopher Weeks, 40, a bailiff from Blackheath, London, who failed to serve an arrest warrant on his girlfriend for failing to buy a television licence, was jailed for three months for perverting the course of justice.

Patient charged

Gary Christopher, 40, a patient at Rampton top-security hospital, appeared in court on two charges of threatening to kill Beverly Allitt, 25, the nurse serving 13 life sentences for killing four children and harming nine others.

Room with a pew

The owner of a Methodist church and school room in Golant, Cornwall, which was closed three years ago, has been granted permission to convert it into a home — as long as she leaves the organ, rostrum and pews in place.



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Police say masterminds behind cold-blooded massacre are still at large

Greysteel killers unrepentant as life sentences begin

By Nicholas Watt
Ireland Correspondent

LOYALIST gunmen gave the thumbs-up from the dock at Belfast Crown Court yesterday as they were jailed for life for murdering eight people in the Greysteel pub massacre.

Two of the terrorists gave the thumbs-up and all four members of the outlawed Ulster Freedom Fighters shook hands and waved to friends in the public gallery as they were led from the dock. But as they began their sentences at the Maze Prison, near Belfast, police said that the "godfathers" who masterminded the Hallowe'en night killings in October 1993 in County Londonderry were still at large.

Sentencing the four to eight concurrent life terms, Lord Justice Carswell said the attack on the Rising Sun pub, carried out in retaliation for the IRA Shankill Road bomb which had killed nine Protestants a week earlier, had been "one of the most callous and cold-blooded massacres in the catalogue of so many heinous crimes committed in this Province". He did not, however, recommend a minimum period in prison after the men changed their pleas to guilty.

One of the terrorists, Robert Knight, 25, who admitted murdering four Catholic workmen in a separate gun attack at Castlerock, Co Londonderry, in March 1993, was given a further four concurrent life sentences.

During the attack at Greysteel, Knight, an unemployed roofer from Coleraine, stood guard outside the rural bar with a sawn-off shotgun and drove the gunmen away in a car which was later abandoned.

As he was led from the dock he gave the thumbs up with Stephen Irwin, 21, an unemployed labourer from Londonderry, who launched the attack on Hallowe'en revellers in the bar with an AK47 rifle. Irwin shouted "trick or treat" before opening fire, and then paused to reload his weapon.Jeffrey Deeney, 24, a labourer, also from Londonderry, fired one round before his 9mm pistol jammed. Brian McNeill, 27, a shirt cutter from Londonderry, drove a second getaway vehicle. A fifth man, Robert Grieve, 25, from Coleraine, was given a two-year suspended sentence for perverting the course of justice by providing Knight with an alibi.


Lord Justice Carswell: no minimum sentence

Lord Justice Carswell told the five men that they were responsible for an attack which had "appalled and disgusted all right-thinking people in the community". He said: "Comparing atrocities would be as fruitless as it would be painful. It is sufficient to say that on the scale of barbarities which have been perpetrated by cold-hearted practitioners of violence over the last quarter of a century, the Greysteel murders rank very high."

The judge said that he would not recommend a minimum period in prison for the four terrorists sentenced to life because they had pleaded guilty. He said: "It is a long-established cardinal principle of sentencing that where a defendant has pleaded guilty, accepted responsibility for his crimes and expressed remorse, the court should temper its punishment and reduce to some extent the sentence which it otherwise [might] have regarded as appropriate." The judge also sentenced McNeill and Deeney for a further 16 and 12 terrorist offences respectively.

After the sentence the detective who led the investigation said that the UFF's "godfathers" remained at large. Detective Chief Superintendent Eric Anderson, the head of CID in the RUC's north region, said: "It is always difficult to get the godfathers who plan, co-ordinate and set up attacks but who never get their hands dirty. They send out other people." Mr Anderson described the team which launched the attack at Greysteel as "formidable".

After the Shankill bombing UFF leaders in the city, under 24-hour surveillance because of police fears of retaliation, demanded reprisals on a similar scale. Sources said that a close associate of one of them, based in Co Londonderry, agreed to carry out the orders. The RUC believes that this man set up a series of meetings to plan the attack, organised at least two dummy runs on the village pub and arranged to have the guns test-fired in a wood hours before the shooting. He did not take part in the attack on the Rising Sun, seven miles outside Londonderry.

Mr Anderson said that the RUC launched a massive investigation after the massacre, involving up to 800 officers. The breakthrough came when officers found a car belonging to one of the terrorists, containing their clothing, which had been abandoned by Knight a mile from the shooting. An incendiary device had failed to ignite and police were left with a largely undamaged vehicle containing important forensic evidence.

Knight was collected by McNeill in a second getaway car. He used his own Skoda and took a wrong turning in the dark. That left Irwin and Deeney to find their own way home after disposing of the weapons in bushes near a shrine.

Relatives of the victims, who were in court for the hearing yesterday, condemned the judge's decision not to recommend a minimum period in jail for the terrorists. Jacqueline O'Doherty, 32, whose mother Moira Duffy, 59, was killed, said: "They were disgraceful sentences. They showed no sign of remorse and winked to each other. These men don't deserve to see daylight."

Rosie Fahey, 55, who still needs hospital treatment after surviving the attack, said: "I thought I wouldn't see them out in my lifetime."


Some of the weapons recovered after the massacre

ALAN LEWIS: PHOTOPRESS






Robert Knight, top, screams at the crowd after his first remand. He, Jeffrey Deeney, centre, and Stephen Irwin switched their pleas to guilty

Eurostar cuts fares to fill weekend trains

By Harvey Elliott, Travel Correspondent

THE Eurostar cross-Channel rail service is to offer a series of cut-price fares in an effort to lure tourists away from airlines. From Tuesday the cheapest fares will be Apex weekend returns to Brussels for £79 and Paris for £84.

The company's new package of "traditional" tickets includes big reductions for those over 60 or under 25. John Segal, its business manager, said: "We don't want to be just like an airline. The railway tradition has always been built on making cheap fares available to those who have retired or who are still exploring the world as students."

At present Eurostar's fares are limited to a £195 first-class return, a £155 standardreturn and a £95 Apex return, which must be bought 14 days in advance. The prices of the new Apex weekend standard-class tickets, which must also be bought 14 days in advance and include a Saturday night stay, compare with a special offer British Airways fare of £91 return to Paris and £99 to Brussels. The normal Apex airline fare is £130 to Paris and £147 to Brussels, although other airlines offer round trips for as little as £65.

Over 60s who hold a Rail Europe Senior Card, which costs £5 a year, will be able to buy a standard-class Eurostar return to Paris for £104 and to Brussels for £99.

Youth return fares, for those under 26, will be £79 to Brussels and £84 to Paris, with single fares half that amount. No special youth card is needed. A reduced fare of £62.50 for standard class will be available for children between 4 and 11.

More than 500,000 people have travelled with Eurostar since the service began in November and it is rapidly increasing the number of trains. Currently about 6,000 people a day travel to Paris, the equivalent of 20 aircraft journeys, and 1,500 travel to Brussels. By late summer Eurostar hopes to run a train from Waterloo to Paris every hour at peak times.

Richard Edgley, managing director of European Passenger Services, which runs Eurostar, said that he was disappointed by the number of passengers to Brussels, but that the Paris route was doing better than expected. He said that the technical failures that have led to a series of embarrassing breakdowns and delays would quickly be overcome.

"We have about the same reliability as the airlines with a third of our services late," he said. "As we are a new service this is to be expected and we are working very hard on overcoming the technical problems, which appear to be confined to individual items of equipment or computer software and which we are assured will drop by a factor of at least ten in the next few weeks."

The high-speed trains also hope to outdo airlines in catering for smokers. The current provision of 78 first-class seats and 120 of the 584 economy seats for smokers, set five years ago, may be reconsidered because of the change in smoking habits. But Mr Edgley said: "On a three-hour journey it is not our intention to ban smoking altogether."

Ferry strike, page 1

Police have words with the car behind

DRIVERS who forget to put on their seatbelts, go too fast or hog lanes are to be warned to step into line by patrol cars carrying a new computerised message system.

Programmed with up to 50 messages, the system will be used by police in West Mercia and the West Midlands. Unmarked patrol cars with video cameras will also record and prosecute reckless drivers.

The message signs, which cost £1,000 each, appear on a panel inside the patrol car's rear windscreen. Messages include "Put your phone down", "Seatbelt", "Reduce your speed", "Do not pass", "Accident ahead", "Follow me" and "Thank you". They can also be switched to display the warnings in French, German, Italian, Spanish and Dutch.

John Burbeck, West Mercia assistant chief constable, said: "The traffic density often means it would be dangerous to pull people over onto the hard shoulder, which is not the safest place to be. The signs will allow patrol officers to give advice to a lot more people in a short space of time."

He said that the drive to improve standards would focus particularly on bad lane discipline. "Everybody complains about congestion on the roads and is frustrated when their journey takes longer than it needs to," Mr Burbeck said. "But by far the most common reason for tailbacks and delays is poor lane discipline by drivers themselves. There is still a commonly held belief that slow, medium and fast lanes exist on motorways. They do not, and this is the message we will be seeking to get over to motorists."

Rolex rapist is jailed for 11 years

By Kathryn Knight

A RAPIST who attacked a millionaire's wife after spotting her Rolex watch as she walked her dogs was sentenced to 11 years by the Old Bailey yesterday. Leon Blackwood, 20, followed the 45-year-old American to her house in Belgravia, central London, where he forced his way in and robbed her before raping her.

The victim described how she was led "like a lamb to the slaughter" by her attacker. Judge Goddard, sentencing Blackwood, said that he had refused to acknowledge his offence, which had destroyed the woman's life. An Old Bailey jury took 20 minutes last month to convict Blackwood, who had admitted robbery but had denied rape. The court was told that there was less than a one-in-ten-million chance of the DNA profile of the rapist matching anyone else in the Afro-Caribbean population.

Blackwood, who had been on parole for burglary, had knocked on the victim's door pretending to ask for directions and had pushed his way in. He snatched her £5,000 Rolex and jewellery and forced her upstairs to her bedroom, where he raped her. He attempted to flee across a roof before being caught by police.

Blackwood's victim said in the witness box: "I knew I would be more isolated up there [in the bedroom], but like a lamb to the slaughter I went up. Throughout the whole thing — from the first moment — I feared for my life." In a later statement read to the court she said that she had become a different person. "My life has changed dramatically. I am not comfortable with my lifestyle any more. I don't want people to see me and I wear no make-up now. The rape occupies all my thoughts."

Blackwood, of Chelsea, had said that he wanted money to go to the Notting Hill carnival. The jury was told that he had been a difficult child, receiving psychological counselling from the age of 10, and had not worked since leaving school at 14.

The judge acknowledged that Blackwood had had a difficult childhood, but she said that he had failed to recognise the severity of his offence. The victim's statement showed "that many normal activities are now an ordeal for her — hearing the doorbell ring, being alone and walking the dogs".

After the case, Detective Inspector Nick Trevette said that cases of Rolex robbery had become increasingly prevalent. Many London police stations had set up squads to deal with the problem.

Surrogate parents cut legal red tape

By Lucy Berrington

A COUPLE from Manchester have become the first surrogate parents in Britain to gain legal responsibility for their baby without going through conventional adoption procedures. Their "parental order", which by-passes the long, costly and emotional route to adoption, is understood to be the first granted since new surrogacy laws came into effect three months ago.

The husband and wife, who do not wish to be named, had been unable to conceive. They had counselling at a local clinic but through family contacts found a woman willing to be artificially implanted with their own donated sperm and egg. She gave birth to a healthy boy last year.

Christina Buchan, the parents' solicitor, said: "The reality of what it means to them is only just beginning to sink in. They are obviously delighted and it is an important legal landmark."

The new law, a response to recent rapid developments in the treatment of infertility, came into effect on November 1 last year, three days before the Manchester couple lodged their application for a parental order. Two magistrates granted the order.

Commercial surrogacy, in which women are paid to have babies on behalf of infertile couples, is outlawed, but the new rules allows for easier transfer of legal responsibility when at least one of the couple is a biological parent of the child.

"The new law gives a much speedier, more informal answer. It is a response to the changing climate," Ms Buchan said. "They had gone through a lot of interviews and checks before they embarked on surrogacy. We advised them of the legal pitfalls."

Couples who already have a surrogate child have until April to obtain parental orders. To qualify they must be married, have paid no fees to the surrogate mother other than expenses, and at least one must be "genetically related" to the child. New surrogate parents must apply for the parental order within six months of the birth.

A spokesman for the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, which regulates fertility clinics, said: "Surrogate arrangements are legally unforceable. The parental order is a fast-track adoption procedure, designed to ensure people know exactly what they are doing."



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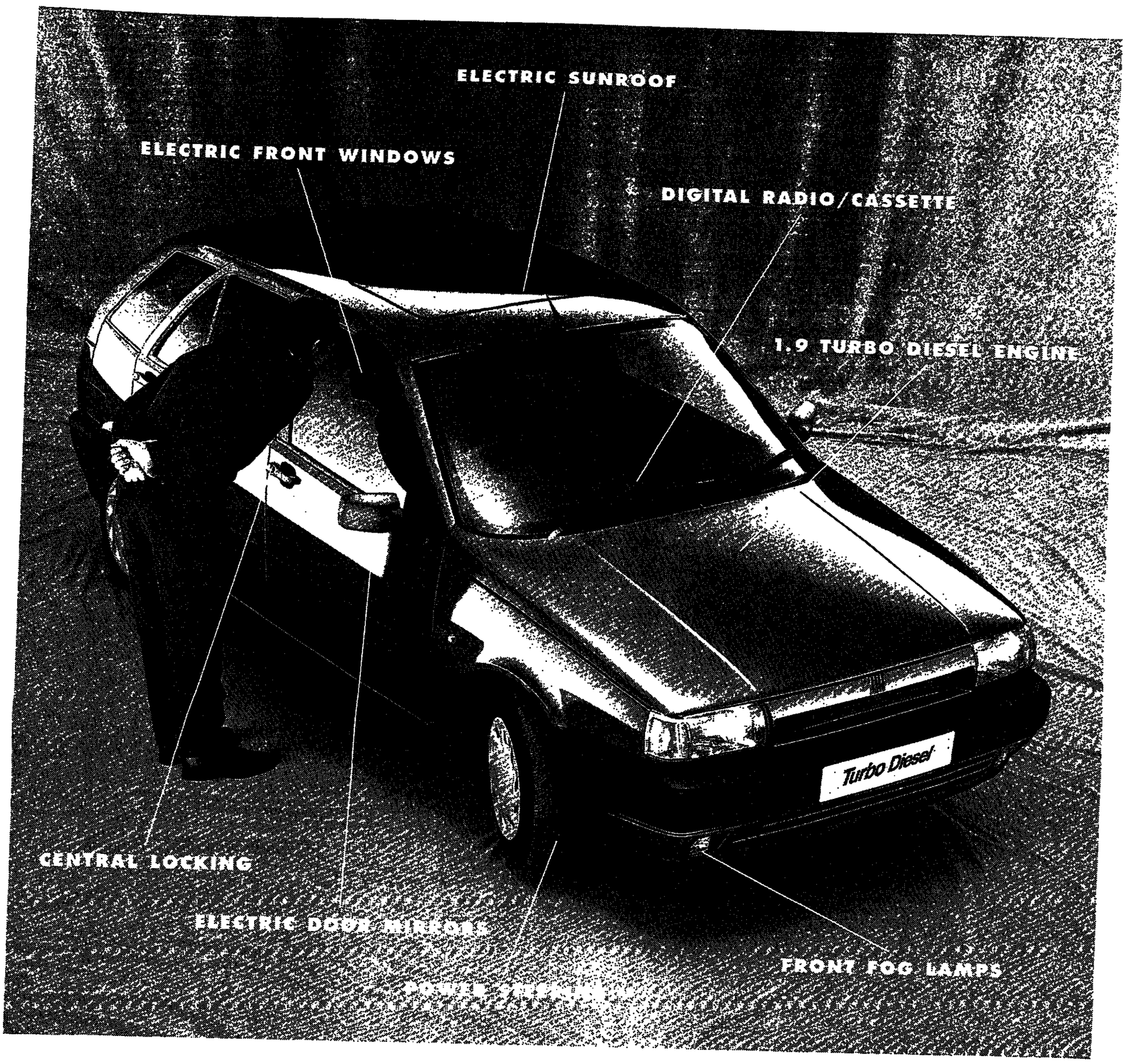
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Technical knock-out for Gorman Bill

Rebels use referendum defeat to fire first shots in new Euro-conflict

BY JAMES LANDALE, POLITICAL REPORTER

A EURO-SCEPTIC attempt to force the Government to hold a referendum over the inter-governmental conference on Europe's future collapsed yesterday.

The Referendum Bill tabled by Teresa Gorman, the whipless MP for Billericay, suffered a technical defeat. Her attempt to prevent the Bill being talked out failed because there were not enough MPs at Westminster.

Under Commons rules, 100 MPs have to support a motion to bring the debate to a close and enable it to move to the next stage. Only 24 MPs backed Mrs Gorman and two voted against. The Bill now drops to the end of the legislative list.

It did, however, allow Tory Eurosceptics to attack the Government's policy on Europe ahead of the Labour European debate next Wednesday and the potential knife-edge vote for John Major.

Eight of the nine whipless Tories were in the chamber yesterday; only Sir Richard Body, MP for Holland with Boston, was absent. Few indicated how they would vote next week, however. Mrs Gorman said yesterday that Britain had undergone a "constitutional revolution" since joining the European Community 20 years ago and now was the time for the people to have their say on the country's future in the community.

Her referendum would have asked if "the UK should continue along the path to a single European government, with a single currency and a single body of law, or remain in the Union but only on the basis of free trade and with a very substantial repatriation of our national sovereignty".

Tony Baldry, a junior Foreign Office Minister, fiercely attacked the Bill, saying it presented an absurd choice and reduced "to the ridiculous, the debate on our future role in Europe". He said however, that Mr Major had not ruled out a referendum when he felt the time was right.

Sir Teddy Taylor (Southend East), another of the whipless rebels, said a referendum would strengthen the authority of the Prime Minister "if he could go to the IGC and say 'I represent what the British people believe'".

In an impassioned speech, Tony Marlow (Northampton North), a fellow Euro-sceptic, backed the referendum and appealed to the Prime Minister: "In the name of reason, good sense and survival, make yourself clear and make yourself clear now."

The whipless Nicholas Budgen (Wolverhampton South West) said he could think of no better way of seriously dividing the Conservative Party than holding a referendum. But he added: "This may be, in the last resort, a necessary and extremely undesirable way of resolving the public demand for some say on this issue."

Joyce Quin, Labour spokeswoman on Europe, said she would not support Mrs Gorman's Bill but that Labour would consider a referendum after the IGC if it resulted in proposals for substantial constitutional changes.

Major plea for loyalty, page 1
Peter Riddell, page 18



Teresa Gorman at an interview yesterday. Her Bill was talked out

Credo

How art, ruled by ethics, can serve worship

Albert H Friedlander

THIS week synagogues have been studying this text from Exodus:

"I have filled Bezalel with the spirit of God, in wisdom, and in understanding, and in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship, to devise skilful works, to work in gold, and in silver, and in brass . ."

From the very beginning, the artist is placed into the centre of religion. Great popes hire greater artists. The architect Frank Lloyd Wright built synagogues which present the worshippers with more questions than answers. And Bezalel in the Bible built a tent in the wilderness.

Art and religion make strange bedfellows. Both strive towards the ultimate which the religious thinker knows to be beyond reach, but which the artist strives to express. When art is ruled by religion, it cannot exist without ethics; and its highest aspiration will be to anticipate the world as it should be, as a Messianic configuration contained within the Divine plan.



Bezalel built a tent in the desert through which Israel wandered for 40 years. The design, the Torah says, was given to Moses by God, making Bezalel more of an artisan — a noble calling — and less of an artist. Judaism is an iconoclastic religion refusing to worship images which imprison and limit the Divine; yet it needs the beauty which in the Torah becomes worship enhanced through calligraphy, and in the sanctuary engages all the senses with the royal colours of Torah garments, gleaming silver and golden shields and crowns, and with the tinkling of the bells on those crowns. All of it is ancillary to that worship which is study and which rises out of the human condition which is exile from God.

Israel was shaped in the desert, with a knowledge that we are all exiles from the moment we are born until the moment we die. First, we are exiled from God. Then, removal from the mother's womb is exile. The wanderings through the desert were the free choice of leaving an oppressive civilisation and electing the desert instead of the fleshpots of Egypt. The children of Israel were also in exile from themselves, fleeing from tasks and capabilities set into their innermost self. The one place in which they might renew themselves was the tent in the wilderness.

Artists can capture total despair or the rising hope of a moment of revelation, and there are times when religion cannot do without art. Kant's third Critique of Judgement saw art as the asymptotic embodiment of human, rational and ethical values; and we must cling to that vision when the despair of a later time has art present us with the visions of evil.

In exile, we need the vision of what might yet be; and the shared task of art and religion is presented to us by Bezalel.

Albert Friedlander is dean of Leo Baeck College and Rabbi of Westminster Synagogue.



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Danger: feminist persons at work

BY JOE JOSEPH

PLAIN-SPEAKING Yorkshire is being given a crash course in political correctness. First the women at Leeds Council were ticked off for calling everyone "luv". Now Wakefield has been bullied into changing a council sign that reads "Men working".

Two female students complained that the sign, on the back of a van used by a council team cleaning roadside drains and gullies, was sexist. Karen Lemm and Christine Armitage felt that the warning to motorists of a hazard ahead, though descriptively accurate, was politically incorrect.

A heavily sighing council official said yesterday: "It's a pity these two girls have nothing better to do. There are 20 people employed on these eight vehicles and none of them are women. They don't want to clean drains.

"There is one additional vehicle in the cleaning service that women use, which is involved in specialist collections from doctors' surgeries. The sign on that vehicle has now been changed to 'Work in progress'.

"Arrangements are made to ensure that the district council's equal opportunities policy is being enacted where appropriate. But in the case of these eight vehicles it's not appropriate because they're all men.

"We have had mayors who were female and they've all been called mayor, not mayoress. The chairmen of various council committees are women, but they prefer to be called chairman rather than chair, because chair is a piece of furniture."



Sign language safer?

Brian Hazell, a Wakefield Conservative councillor, finds the hullaballoo "absolutely unbelievable, it makes me so cross. I'm amazed that the council has pandered to these women. When they are coming out with this sort of nonsense, how can you treat them seriously any more?

"There has to be an intention to abuse women's rights and this isn't. It's purely a statement of fact — that men are working."

Miss Lemm, 19, an arts student at Bretton College, Wakefield, said: "Although in law women have equal rights, putting signs on vans saying 'Men working' just perpetuates old sexist attitudes. If it said 'Whites working' there would be an outcry. There's no difference between sexism and racism."

German officers on friendship mission

BY JOHN YOUNG

THE son of Claus von Stauffenberg, leader of the failed plot to assassinate Hitler in July 1944, will be among a group of retired and serving German officers gathering at a hotel in Rochester, Kent, today.

They will be meeting their British counterparts from all three services under the auspices of the Anglo-German Officers' Association, which is dedicated to developing friendship and reconciliation between the armed forces of the two nations.

The meeting is seen as particularly significant with the approach of the VE Day 50th anniversary and fears that the commemorations may be used to revive old antagonisms.

Generalmajor Berthold Schenk Graf von Stauffenberg, who retired last year, is a tall, burly, softly spoken man. He describes himself as an intense anglophile and, while serving as military attaché in London, became convinced of the need for more positive reconciliation.

"I have never met a German officer who served in this country and didn't love it," he said yesterday.

Asked whether he agreed with German representation at the VE Day commemorations, Generalmajor von Stauffenberg said that from his point of view it was a good thing that Germany lost the war. "Otherwise I would not be alive today. But as a German, I would not want to go and celebrate someone else's victory."

هكذا من الاصل

Paris spy scandals, fierce economic competition and job fears erode pillars of democracy

Age of uncertainty assails France

BY CHARLES BREMNER

FRANCE barely noticed this week when sailors ran riot at the Channel ports. A brief mention on the news reflected the reality that battle with the police is almost the norm for any industrial dispute in a country long given to airing its grievances through "social explosion".

The ugly scenes at Calais and Boulogne, however, offered a useful snapshot of the underlying malaise afflicting a divided France. Its politicians are lurching through a presidential campaign that has turned venomous. Underlying the rhetoric of all the candidates from the champions of the extreme Left and Right, is the notion that France badly needs a remedy for what is universally known as *la crise*.

Edouard Balladur, the Prime Minister, and his rivals, recognise this as the two-decade period that has seen an inexorable rise in unemployment to the present level of 12.6 per cent. Beyond the statistics lies the sense that despite general prosperity and one of Europe's strongest economies, France has somehow lost its way.

As far as most French people are concerned, the main culprit is the threat of world competition, a force embodied by the old Anglo-Saxon bogeyman. He made his appearance twice this week in the bizarre decision to go public with the panic over American spying. The Americans have now put the wind up some of the biggest French companies by announcing their big institutional investors' plans to break up the cosy dictatorships that pass for French company boards.

The workers at Calais took on Uncle Sam's smaller brother by targeting Meridian, a British ferry company that has given "French jobs" to cut-price Polish seamen.

While the foreign menace is useful for stirring up old-fashioned Gaullist hackles at election time, it does not explain the widespread belief that the institutions are in trouble as a large chunk of the country feels left out of the race for prosperity. The new schism runs not through the old Left-Right trench, but along the divide between the more educated classes who favour Europe and the new technology, and those who fear for their jobs and recoil from the idea of "France being run from Frankfurt", as Philippe de Villiers, the romantic nationalist candidate puts it.

The worried section of the population, which includes students alarmed that diplomas no longer guarantee jobs, is growing restive. In the latest small-scale strikes, hundreds of Air France staff stopped work on Thursday with a warning that they would tolerate no further cuts as management tries to trim costs at the floundering state airline.

The mood of despair was heightened by the spectacle of the governing and business establishment flouting the rules for their own benefit. Although corruption is by no means as widespread as in Italy, the prosecution of former ministers, mayors and businessmen all lining their pockets hardly improves morale in a country where civic spirit has always been in short supply. News over the past week that President Mitterrand's entourage spied on 3,000 journalists, lawyers and other citizens in the 1980s tweaks a sensitive nerve. Misgivings about the morals as well as the skills of the leadership were sharpened by M Balladur's conduct in the affair of the bungled telephone bugging, one of those political-criminal comedies that are a feature of French history. The subsequent slanging match between M Pasqua and the judiciary has only heightened the feeling that all is not well with the pillars of French democracy.

Raymond Barre, the likely centre-right candidate, summed up a general belief on Thursday, saying: "A financial, political and administrative oligarchy is claiming to be the sole embodiment of the well-being of the nation." Like Jacques Chirac, M Balladur's Gaullist rival, M Barre believes France's weak parliament has led to a democratic deficit that has allowed power to be hijacked by the elite. "Our very conception of the democratic state is being thrown into question," he said.

All the candidates, including M Balladur, the effective incumbent, are promising to heal the social woes in return for winning the *rassemblement* in May, an event that is the key to the run-off in the presidential contest. The Prime Minister, who has suddenly lost his aura of invincibility and is barely ahead of his rivals, is promising "reform without rupture". To the dismay of his erstwhile fans, this is an uninspiring list of tinkering of the kind he has introduced as Prime Minister since 1993.



Edouard Balladur, the Prime Minister, shakes hands with some of his supporters on the campaign trail in Tours

IG Metall starts strikes in Bavaria

FROM JOHN HOLLAND IN BERLIN

GERMAN metalworkers began a series of strikes in Bavaria yesterday to press home their demands for a 6 per cent pay rise for the union's 3.5 million members.

After weeks of threats and an overwhelming membership vote, IG Metall, Europe's largest industrial trade union, ended at a stroke an 11-year period of relative co-operation with employers in Bavaria. The walkout is the first by metalworkers there since 1954, and so far it includes 22 industries and about 11,000 workers.

The union plans to add 12 more companies to the list next week if no progress is made. Neither BMW nor Audi, two of the largest carmakers located in Munich and Ingolstadt respectively, are on the strike list.

IG Metall has pitted itself against the Government of Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, and the Gesamtmetall employers' association, which has so far steadfastly refused to negotiate the union's demands. Norbert Blüm, the Labour Minister, told several German newspapers this week that a strike would be a "punch in the eye", which would delay economic recovery "by months".

Union officials argue they have not received a real wage increase in several years. They say that a 6 per cent rise would include 2.5 per cent for inflation and a 3.5 per cent increase for worker productivity.

There was almost a carnival atmosphere outside factories in Nuremberg, Augsburg, Ingolstadt and several other cities yesterday and a confidence that union demands would be met. Since many of the country's biggest companies, including AEG and Siemens, are based in Bavaria, the threat of is powerful leverage.

The employers' association, representing about 8,000 firms, has not set a date for talks, but appears likely to make its first counter-offer early next week.

WORLD SUMMARY

Marchers condemn acquittals

Islamabad: Angered by the acquittal of two Christians sentenced to death for blasphemy against Islam, hundreds of Muslim fundamentalists staged protests in two northeastern cities in Pakistan yesterday.

Police arrested 33 fundamentalists thought linked to a recent surge in sectarian violence. The High Court in Lahore on Thursday dismissed charges against Salamat Masih, 14, and Rehmat Masih, 40. *(AP)*

Leading article, page 19

Presidency lead for Greek Left

Athens: Greece's parliament yesterday failed to elect a new President for the country in a first round of voting, but Costis Stephanopoulos, supported by the ruling Socialists and a small nationalist party, won 181 votes in the 300-seat house and appeared likely to win the third and final round next month, avoiding an early national election. He was running against Athanassios Tsaldaris, the conservative candidate, who received 109 votes. *(Reuter)*

Jurassic-era pines threat

Sydney: Park rangers may have to guard 39 Jurassic-era pines in Wollemi National Park after botanists and park service officers found footprints around them and identification tags torn down.

Hikers sneaked into the refuge of the pines, which have survived for millions of years in a rain forest grotto, and it is feared their shoes may carry deadly fungi. *(AP)*

Top newsmen

Brussels: Finnish journalist Olli Kivinen, who writes for *The Times*, and Briton Kevin d'Arcy, a BBC World Service contributor, won the Association of European Journalists' 30th annual prize. *(Reuter)*

Neo-Nazis arrested as Germany bans party

BY JOHN HOLLAND

GERMANY'S largest remaining neo-Nazi organisation, the Free German Workers' Party, (FAP), was banned yesterday. Offices and homes of dozens of members were raided throughout Germany yesterday morning, arrests were made and Fascist books, flags, and Second World War weapons were seized.

The group's bank statements were impounded and accounts frozen as police sought to dampen criticism that the Government action was far too late and had allowed many neo-Nazis time to slip away. The organisation has been linked to attacks against foreigners and Jews.

In Hamburg, police also raided the offices of a smaller but equally influential group of 30 neo-Nazis known as the National List, best known for a telephone hotline and computer information network for neo-Nazis.

The two groups' arrested members face charges of violating the constitutional ban on glorifying Nazism through the use of symbols, inflammatory speech, or gestures.

The FAP was described by German interior minister, Manfred Kanther, as an anti-democratic group "which disdains human rights and stirs up xenophobia and racism". Officials said both groups had used their status as quasi-legal parties to spread their messages of hate behind the constitutional protection of free speech.

Critics fear that the neo-Nazi network has not been shut down, but merely displaced, as many members are now organised into small autonomous units.

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Having said all this, we invite your challenge.

If you've never window-shopped at one of our advertisements before, make this the occasion to stop a little longer to peruse all that we promise – it's all only a free phone call away.

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So for a long time, even though chinos were 'in', they remained out of our Lands' End catalog.

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Chinos with Pleated Front
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Inside leg lengths to 29", 30", 31", 32", 33", 34", 36". Unfinished 38".
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Men 100% Cotton
0307 – 1AL4 £16.00
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Sizes:
Men: S, M, L, XL
Women: XS, S, M, L, XL
Colors: Black, Burgundy, White, Navy, Red, Royal, Creme
Monogram: (3 initials only) £3.50

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▲ **How Lands' End re-defined the Attaché Case.**

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So, we challenged our soft luggage people. "Give us a case", we said, "that's made of canvas and 1) holds more than it ought to, 2) is easy to carry, and 3) doesn't cost an arm and a leg".

The result: the Square Rigger you see here at £39.50. Still made of the same sailcloth canvas, it has padded handles, carrying strap, a file-size interior, and a key clip that lets you unlock doors without setting your bag down first.

Today, the Lands' End Attache peeks out from beneath a lot of airplane seats, and you'll glimpse it on the pin-striped laps of executives hunkered down in chauffeured limousines.

The price is still homey, so the rest of us can afford it. And really should, now that we've made it so easy to order one. On with it!

Square Rigger Attache
Colors: Black, Classic Navy, Dark Burgundy, Hunter Green, Olive Drab, Stone Brown
2915 – 3AL1 – £39.50
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Dimensions: 17 ½" x 13 ½" x 3 ½"
Monogram: (3 initials only) £3.50

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Gratitude and a benevolent press bolster a figure of stability 'more popular than the Pope'

Spain puts faith in Crown



MADRID FILE
by CHARLES BREMNER

WITH Spain in the grip of seemingly endless political crisis, it is not surprising that eyes should be turning to King Juan Carlos. These are not just the dwindling nostalgists for the era of General Franco, but a minority of weary citizens who, according to polls, wish the popular monarch would step in to give Felipe González, the scandal-stricken Socialist Premier, a nudge towards the electoral door.

"What is the King doing?" screamed the cover of one magazine this week. It reported nothing more than a rumour that Juan Carlos was discreetly working to defuse the ever uglier conflict between Señor González and José María Aznar, the opposition leader. Even that was too much for a royal entourage which, ferociously sensitive to any suggestion of royal meddling, issued angry denials. Since succeeding Franco in 1975 and then fathering the transition to democracy, the Borbón monarch has only once waded in to exercise his role as constitutional arbiter: on February 23, 1981, when he earned the gratitude of the nation by quashing an attempt by military officers to take over parliament. It is a tribute to the success of the Spanish restoration that, two decades on from the King's arrival on the throne as a much-ridiculed dictator's protégé, he is fondly seen as the guarantor of stability and is, according to polls, more popular than the Pope. "He has to do nothing. That's the whole point," says a distinguished professor of politics. "His role is even less than that of the British Queen."

All the goodwill that surrounds Juan Carlos, 57, and Queen Sofía makes for a tranquillity that the resident of Buckingham Palace could only dream of. Far from the world of rat packs and Squidgy tapes, *los reyes* are spared the ribald prying that is the scourge of their English cousins. Apart from the veil that is always drawn over some of the King's extra-curricular activities, the media have also trodden very carefully over the matter of his friendship with two of the newly indicted stars of the sleaze saga, Javier de la Rosa, a Barcelona businessman, and Mario Conde, the disgraced boss of the Banesto bank. Both are awaiting trial for stashing away illicit fortunes. There has been only timid mention of the lavish gifts from the disgraced business set, including a Porsche car.

This week, the King has escaped public ribbing over the latest of a long history of mishaps. He turned up for official duties with his right arm in plaster after fracturing his wrist while skiing in the Pyrenees. The limb will pose a ceremonial problem next month when the accident-prone monarch accompanies Princess Elena, 31, up the aisle of Seville Cathedral. The Infanta's wedding to Jaime de Marichalar, a banker, is the first among the three royal offspring.

Rebel with applause

SO YOU thought the end of history had killed the supply of guerrillas suitable for worship by Western youth? Well-to-do Madrid teenagers have discovered their 1990s version of Ché Guevara, whose poster was de rigeur on their parents' walls. He is Subcomandante Marcos, the eloquent, pipe-smoking head of the Zapatista rebels in the Mexican state of Chiapas. The fact that he always sports a mask has not stopped young madrileños scrambling to buy T-shirts with his profile and the slogan: "Todos Somos Marcos" (We are all Marcos).



King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofía enjoying a spot of plain sailing

Lesson in olé matrimony

WHEN it comes to lavish nuptials, the Spanish royal family will be hard put next month to match the sumptuous spectacle just offered by the wedding near Seville of a star bullfighter and one of the country's most popular singers.

The marriage of *toreros* and *flamencas* is part of eternal Spain, but with bullfighting now a big-money branch of showbusiness, it was inevitable that the wedding of José Ortega Cano and Rocío Jurado would trigger a paroxysm of hype.

For months, the fans have been thrilling to the romance of what some of the media call the strange couple. Señor Ortega, 40, is a respected classical matador long known as a confirmed bachelor. Señora Jurado is a romantic songstress with an imposing figure who is ten years his senior. With her heart set on a church wedding, the bride won an annulment of her existing marriage. The ceremony was delayed somewhat by the refusal of priests to officiate and by a goring Señor Ortega received from a bull in Colombia last month.

Elizabeth Taylor could have picked up a few tips from the £500,000 ceremony, on an estate near Seville recently bought by Señor Ortega. With helicopters hovering overhead, some 1,800 guests and Señora Jurado's 18-year-old son watched on closed circuit television as the couple turned up two hours late in horse-drawn carriages.

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General tells how Eta plot to kill King was foiled

FROM EDWARD OWEN IN MADRID

A RETIRED Spanish general revealed yesterday how an illegal security operation foiled a plan by Eta, the Basque separatist group, to kill King Juan Carlos.

Lieutenant-General Antonio Sáenz de Santa María, 75, spoke of the operation in an attack against the current judicial investigation into dirty-tricks operations carried out by the security forces against Eta. Six security officials are already in custody.

The general was director of the Civil Guard between 1983 and 1987 when death squads, allegedly financed by Madrid, killed 27 suspected Basque separatists in southwest France. He revealed yesterday that if it had not been for such illegal operations, the King could have been assassinated in November 1986 and Eta would have a huge arms factory.

In an extensive interview in *El País*, he castigated the conservative opposition Popular Party for an "obscene" attack on the Socialist Government over its alleged financing of the death squads. The general described how he could be accused of several crimes in saving the King's life. "I heard from my intelligence services that Eta wanted to buy some ground-to-air missiles to shoot down the aircraft [of the King] when it was landing at Fuenterrabía, very near to the frontier. Having got this information, I used funds from the national reserves — they could also accuse me of not paying VAT on them — to get in touch with a well-known arms trafficker with access to foreign secret services in a Middle Eastern country, who bought the missiles. I could be accused of arms trafficking."

According to the general, his agents bought two missiles, removed the explosives and put two radio transmitters inside instead with some fake explosives. He then used a van to drive the missiles, on Eta's instructions, via Portugal to San Sebastián, where the transmitters were activated near the airport. "Collaboration with an armed gang," the general said, citing another action that could be viewed as criminal.

Finally, the missiles were collected and Civil Guard agents illegally followed the signal into France. The transmitters led the general and his agents to the Sokoa furniture factory in Hendaya just over the French border. French police knocked down a wall and found not only the missiles but Eta's headquarters and main arms factory.

The Interior Ministry in Madrid confirmed yesterday that at that time the King had been due to arrive by plane at the nearby Fuenterabbía airfield.

In *El País*, the retired general dismissed any criticism about such security operations that break the law. "The end does not justify the means, they say. Of course it justifies them. What are not justified are murders and letting them happen."

Festival marred by 'fake rescue'

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

SCANDAL threatened the annual San Remo song festival on the Italian Riviera yesterday when its popular showman, Pippo Baudo, was accused of trying to boost TV ratings by staging the rescue of an apparently suicidal audience member.

Signor Baudo, the highest paid showman in Italy, became even more of a hero for millions of Italians on Thursday when he was shown persuading Pino Pagano, the young spectator, not to leap to his death from the gallery of the festival set, the Ariston Theatre.

"Pippo, I am desparate," the young man told the presenter. But he agreed to climb down after Signor Baudo promised he would not be arrested. Signor Baudo embraced the young man as he apparently decided to live. But Alberto Castagna, a critic and rival presenter, denounced the drama. "It was all studied, prepared on the drawing board," he said.

Police described Signor Pagano as a compulsive liar who had a vendetta against one of the festival's sponsors. Critics said the saga showed that security was poor.



Andreotti: denies he was Mafia member

Andreotti lawyers ask for switch

Palermo: Lawyers defending Giulio Andreotti, the former Italian Prime Minister, on charges involving the Mafia, yesterday asked a preliminary hearing in Palermo, the Sicilian capital and Cosa Nostra's stronghold, to move any possible trial to a special tribunal in Rome.

The preliminary hearing must decide whether Signor Andreotti should be tried on charges alleging that he was a fully fledged "man of honour" (mafioso). The hearing began yesterday at the city's heavily guarded central court after four months of delays to give the defence time to read prosecution documents.

Signor Andreotti denies the charges. After the defence submission on the venue, the hearing was adjourned until next Thursday. *(Reuter)*

Budget vote lifts Russian hope of raising IMF loan

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S economic prospects improved dramatically yesterday when parliament passed the third of four readings of the budget, smoothing the way for a key multibillion-pound International Monetary Fund stand-by loan.

Deputies in the Duma, the Lower House, passed the budget after months of uncertainty and weeks of pessimistic economic indicators — notably rising inflation and a falling rouble. At the same time, Russian and IMF teams resumed their loan negotiations.

Anatoli Chubais, the jubilant First Deputy Prime Minister responsible for economic affairs, described the 248,000 billion rouble (£37 billion) budget as a tough, anti-inflationary package that corresponded exactly to IMF demands to bring down inflation and curb the deficit.

"This fully corresponds to the most strict requirements of the IMF," the reform-minded minister said. "This is why we have grounds to believe that talks with the fund will be successful," he added. Although no details were available of the first session of negotiations, the IMF signalled that a deal for a £4 billion loan was close at hand when it confirmed that Michel Camdessus, its managing director, would visit Moscow next month to conclude the deal with Viktor Chernomyrdin, the Russian Prime Minister.

Assuming that the Duma passes the budget at its fourth reading and Russia clinches the IMF loan, President Yeltsin may be in a position to get his country's economic reforms back on track after weeks of confusion which has been provoked by the fallout from the 11-week war against the secessionist administration in the Caucasus republic of Chechenia.

Russia's military campaign against the forces of General Dzhokhar Dudayev is expected to have cost several billion pounds in additional military expenditure, emergency aid relief for refugees and reconstruction of destroyed property. The war also dented President Yeltsin's credibility as a reformist democrat and shook Western confidence in his rule.

The prospect of an IMF approval would mean more than simple backing for Russia's 1995 budget. It would send a clear signal to the Kremlin that Western donor nations, and America in particular, are still prepared to back Mr Yeltsin and put the bloody events of Chechenia behind them.

Although heavy fighting continued in the republic yesterday, with Russian gunners pounding rebel Chechen positions around Grozny, the capital, Washington has made clear that it will continue to give its support to the present Russian leadership.

Strobe Talbott, a Deputy US Secretary of State, said in an important policy speech on Russia in Washington on Thursday night that the conflict in the Caucasus should not affect "the big picture" of support for Russian reforms.

Addressing the annual Arms Control Association dinner, Mr Talbott conceded that the conflict had been "a personal and political débâcle" for the Russian leader, but emphasised that it should not affect America's financial support for reforms in Russia.

"What we should not do is to treat each and every disagreement we have with the Russians as some sort of final, high-noon showdown that puts the entire relationship, including support for reform, on the line," the former journalist told the meeting, in a reference to the US aid package of more than £500 million which has been earmarked for the former Soviet Union this year.

Mr Talbott was responding in part to threats by right-wingers in the Republican-dominated Congress to halt American funding to Russia because of the war in Chechenia and Moscow's agreement to build nuclear power reactors for Iran.

"Threatening to pull the plug on our reform assistance programmes is a card we can play exactly once," Mr Talbott said. "Having done it, we will not be able to do it — or even plausibly threaten to do it — again."



President Klestil of Austria meets the star Sophia Loren at this year's Vienna Opera Ball

Britain and US firm on sanctions

BRITAIN and America yesterday reaffirmed their determination not to relax any of the United Nations sanctions against Iraq, nor to allow any let-up in the political pressure on Saddam Hussein.

Madeleine Albright, the American Ambassador to the UN, flew to London for a brief meeting yesterday with Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, at the start of a tour of Europe and the Middle East, where she hopes to drum up support for America's hardline stance. The Foreign Office said afterwards that both had agreed on the need to maintain the pressure on Iraq. "Saddam Hussein remains untrustworthy; the leopard has not changed his spots. There is no case for a relaxation of sanctions."

Britain and America are worried that several Security Council members are pushing for the lifting of sanctions when a report on Iraqi compliance with resolutions on the scrapping of weapons of mass destruction is submitted on April 10.



Hurd: wants Britain to help to set agenda

Defence outline by Hurd

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

BRITISH involvement in a European military intervention force available for humanitarian or civil war emergencies will be outlined by Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, next week.

He is to address an audience of foreign policy experts in Berlin the day before John Major is to defend his European policy in a Commons debate that is likely to see the Government struggling to muster a majority.

Mr Hurd and Malcolm Rifkind, the Defence Secretary, have been developing ideas for closer European co-operation in peacekeeping and humanitarian assistance since last summer. At the same time, their officials have been floating ideas with other European Union governments, particularly the French.

Both ministers hope that Britain can help to set the agenda on defence co-operation during the European Union's 1996 Inter-Governmental Conference. However, large differences still separate France and Britain over how far the Union should become involved in decision-making over defence.

Inquiry into Euro tourism bribery

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN BRUSSELS

THE European Commission yesterday became the target of a police inquiry for the second time this week, when officers began investigating an alleged bribery scheme within the tourism unit.

The revelations are bound to lead to further criticisms about fraud in the European Union, particularly about the way in which internal inquiries are handled. In this case, the internal investigation had been going on for several years before yesterday's official announcement that the Commission had lifted the diplomatic immunity of three officials so that fraud squads from Belgium and France can mount a full inquiry.

Earlier this week, Belgian police searched the offices and home of Karel van Miert, the European Competition Commissioner, in connection with the Agusta helicopter bribery affair, which has implicated large sections of the Flemish Socialist Party.

Mr van Miert, a former party chairman, denies that he has been involved in any wrongdoing.

The tourism unit investigation began in 1990, designated European Year of Tourism. The agency was set up in 1989 to promote tourism in Europe and to award contracts to the private sector.

It is alleged that the officials had demanded and been given bribes by firms that received contracts under the agency's £6 million budget in 1990.

In at least one case, the bribe was believed to have been worth 30 per cent of the contract. The Commission did not give details about the total amount of the alleged bribes.

Britons take Cyprus quake in their stride

FROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

THOUSANDS of Greek Cypriots slept in the open for the second time last night, fearing that the most powerful earthquake to hit the island in nearly half a century would be repeated.

A quake measuring 5.2 on the Richter scale struck shortly before midnight on Thursday, killing an elderly Greek Cypriot couple. It caused relatively little damage, but widespread panic. The island's telephone system, already under increased pressure from residents checking on relatives and friends, was flooded by calls from Cypriots living in Britain, Australia and South Africa. The south-western coastal area of Paphos, which bore the brunt of the quake, is popular with British tourists and home to about 5,000 Britons.

The domed village church and several houses in the village of Goudhi, 20 miles north of Paphos, were badly damaged. In nearby Pano Arodhes, the worst-hit village, half the houses collapsed and people were sleeping in tents, fearing a repeat of the earthquake of 1953, which killed 64 people. Some British tourists slept on sunbeds around hotel pools, but many made light of their experience. The British High Commission said no Britons were injured and it was not advising tourists to leave. With holidaymakers the mainstay of the island's economy, attracting a million Britons a year, the Cypriot authorities were keen to allay fears.

The parents of GMTV presenter Penny Smith, who are retired in Ayios Neophytos village, said the quake was "was a fair old shock" but it had failed to terrify many elderly retirees who had lived through the blitz. Christine Smith said: "We've been married for nearly 40 years and at last the earth moved for us."

Sotiris Kramvis, a senior geophysicist, said another large earthquake was unlikely. Most of the damaged buildings were old, and tourist hotels and blocks of flats were mainly modern ferro-concrete structures.

☐ Government quits: The coalition Government of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus has resigned after disagreements over a property law, the Turkish-Cypriot TAK news agency said. *(Reuter)*

Oleg Gordievsky.

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Oleg Gordievsky tells the dramatic story of his escape only in The Sunday Times tomorrow.

Tokyo coalition threatened by war apology split

FROM GWEN ROBINSON IN TOKYO

THE bitter debate in Japan about whether it should apologise for its army's wartime actions is now threatening the fragile coalition Government of Tomiichi Murayama, the Prime Minister.

His Socialist Party has urged leaders of its administration partners to honour an agreement to support a resolution in the Diet (parliament), apologising for the country's aggression in the Second World War, which was intended to mark the fiftieth anniversary in August of the end of hostilities.

But a campaign against the proposition by the Liberal Democratic Party, the largest and most conservative coalition member, has been gathering support. A compromise resolution, calling for Japan to renounce war for ever, has drawn only half-hearted support from a minority of coalition and opposition members.

"It may be advisable to postpone the entire debate on an anti-war resolution until the next parliamentary session in summer," said Taku Yamazaki, chairman of a key committee on Diet affairs.

Some leading Liberal Democrats, however, want the issue settled at once and have threatened to cross party lines to join opposition members in fighting an apology resolution. A majority of the 294 Liberal MPs have formed a special parliamentary group to oppose the resolution, and have gained support from ultra-nationalist groups.

Many conservatives MPs say that an anti-war resolution would ratify a distorted view of history. "Japan has no need to apologise for the war ... and anyway, if you have to wait 50 years to pass such a resolution, then it's not significant," said Seisuke Okuno, a former Liberal Cabinet member who heads the parliamentary group opposing the resolution.

In 1988, he was forced to resign his ministerial post over a controversial remark that Japan had not intended to invade China when it launched its military campaign against the Chinese army in the 1930s.

Mr Murayama's problem is that elections for the Upper House are scheduled for the middle of the year. In the circumstances, "it is almost impossible for the Socialists to abandon one of their last remaining tenets — apologising and atoning for the war", one party member said.

Commentators believe that the apology issue could ultimately trigger a walkout by either disgruntled Socialists or conservatives and bring down the coalition. The Government already has been greatly weakened by criticism of its inept response to the Kobe earthquake in January. "Behind-the-scenes political infighting is intensifying. The coalition is losing its centrifugal force and its internal contradictions are starting to come into the open," said Kenzo Uchida, a professor of political science.

The issues of war guilt and atonement have always been divisive in Japan, where many prominent politicians and academics insist the army did not wage a war of aggression.

The Liberal Democrats, over nearly four decades in power, not only maintained an ideological objection to acknowledging war guilt, but developed a vast political and financial support base among right-wing groups, particularly those connected with the Association of War-Bereaved Families, which numbers about 1.4 million families of Japanese killed in the war and wields considerable influence over government policies.

☐ **Budget backed:** The Japanese Communist Party said yesterday that it would end nearly five decades of stubborn rejections of government budgets because of the Kobe earthquake.

A party spokesman said that the last time the Communists voted "yes" was for a budget providing additional spending in 1948 to rebuild the country's shattered infrastructure after the war. *(Reuter)*



Shia Muslim children with toy guns trample on US and Israeli flags during a parade in Beirut yesterday to mark the Iranian-sponsored Jerusalem Day

Hebron anniversary heightens fear of attack

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

A YEAR after a Brooklyn-born Jewish settler shot dead 29 Muslim worshippers in a Hebron mosque, Palestinians in the city, which is sacred to Jews and Arabs, are still scared of another slaughter and Jews all over Israel are afraid that today's anniversary will spark a revenge attack.

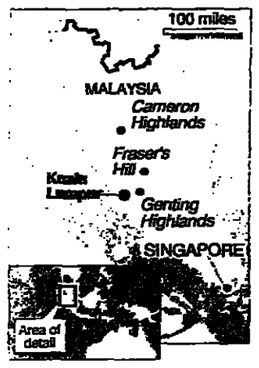
Since the day when Barukh Goldstein turned his automatic rifle on the backs of Muslims kneeling in prayer on the last Friday in Ramadan, little has changed on the violent streets of Hebron, the home of 100,000 Palestinians and a 500-strong Jewish population.

Despite calls from left-wing politicians for the settlers to be removed, there are more in Hebron now than last year, a yeshiva or Jewish religious college has moved from a temporary to a permanent site and a new residential building for Jewish families has been completed.

In the heavily-fortified settlement of Kiryat Arba overlooking the city, which contains the tombs of the biblical patriarchs — Abraham, Isaac and Jacob — Goldstein's imposing marble grave has become a pilgrimage site for extreme right-wing Jews who regard him as a hero. "When I feel depressed, I come here because I know he was a special man and it helps me," said Sigal Gilboa, a 17-year old who recently visited the grave. Although only an extreme minority built Goldstein into a cult figure, many more people support the 500 Jews who live in Hebron, despite a hostile Palestinian population.

A recent service in Goldstein's honour was attended by more than 300 Jews. The event was described as a "disgusting spectacle" by Uri Dromi, an Israeli government spokesman. Many of those who took part, however, called for more massacres. "Samson killed 3,000 Philistines when he brought down the temple," said Joseph Goldberg, one of those present. "He did it for vengeance. What Dr Goldstein did was the same thing."

Ecologists condemn plan for jungle highway



BY MATT GEORGE

TROPICAL jungle that clothes three of Malaysia's most popular hill resorts is to be sacrificed at the altar of mass tourism.

The decision by Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the Prime Minister, to build a mountain highway linking the colonial hill stations of Cameron Highlands and Fraser's Hill to the casino resort of Genting Highlands has appalled environmentalists.

Construction of the 80-mile highway, would destroy a swath of the forest and vegetation that contribute to the resorts' cooler climatic appeal. The area is also home to many species of flora and fauna.

The World Wide Fund for Nature Malaysia has publicly criticised the plan initiated by Dr Mahathir, whose intention is to boost mass tourism. He wants to provide travellers with a single and easier access to the resorts. At present, tourists have to travel from three different destinations to visit the hill stations dotted along the Main Range that straddles the country. WWF Malaysia this week attacked the plan saying that linking the hill resorts could wreck the ecology by stripping off topsoil.

"Without such protection, soil will be washed into the streams and river, causing a chronic situation throughout the catchment areas," said Isabelle Neermala Louis, WWF's director of conservation.

The hill stations were set up by the colonial Government in the earlier part of the century as vacation retreats for the British working in the tropical heat of the lowlands. Many of the resorts' bungalows and hotels, one of which was built in Tudor style and quaintly called the Olde Smoke House, still stand amid English flower gardens, golf courses and latter-day condominiums.

The WWF plea to the Government to reconsider the environmental and economic feasibility of the mountain highway is unlikely to be heeded. One academic in Malaysia said: "If Dr Mahathir wants to build a mountain highway, there is no one who can stop him."

Mandela and Buthelezi fail to heal rift over mediation

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN CAPE TOWN

PRESIDENT MANDELA yesterday invited Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi to his Cape Town home, Genadendal, to talk over the impasse caused by the chief's demand for international mediation. F.W. de Klerk, the Deputy President, was also present.

The meeting did not succeed in ending Chief Buthelezi's party boycott of Parliament, but all three leaders agreed to consult their constituencies and meet again.

The three were signatories to an agreement on April 19 last year, which promised international mediation on outstanding constitutional matters, immediately after the April 27 general election.

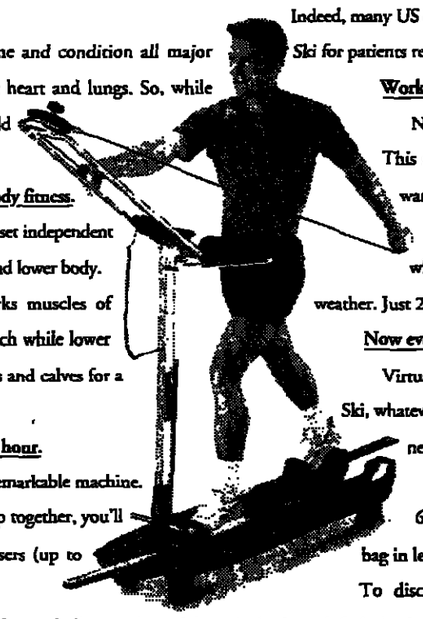
MPs from Chief Buthelezi's Inkatha Freedom Party this week walked out of parliament in support of their leader's demands. Cabinet rank party members remained, however. Chris Liebenberg, the non-party Finance Minister, virtually accused him of holding the country's exchange-control system to ransom through the instability threatened by his actions.

In a speech yesterday, Mr Mandela made an apparently veiled threat that he might use Draconian powers to clamp down on violence in the troubled KwaZulu/Natal province.

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Wavering Democrat jeopardises budget vote

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

THE fate of the most radical element of the Republicans' *Contract with America* hung in the balance last night after a key senator withdrew his support and the White House mounted a final effort to defeat it.

Senate Republicans need a two-thirds majority, or 67 votes, to approve a constitutional amendment mandating a balanced federal budget by 2002, but they suffered a serious setback when Sam Nunn, a Georgia Democrat, said that he could not support the amendment without significant changes.

That left Republican Whips trying to muster support for the proposals put forward by Newt Gingrich, the Republican Speaker of the House of Representatives, with 65 definite Republican and Democrat votes. Four Democrat senators were undecided about how to vote on Tuesday.

The White House sought desperately to prevent the four from defecting. Robert Rubin, the Treasury Secretary, and President Clinton's other top economic aides denounced the proposed amendment as an "horrendous economic policy" that would put the Administration in an economic straitjacket and cause deep recession.

Republicans said all previous efforts to curb Washington's profligacy had failed, and this was the only way to prevent the country becoming hopelessly indebted. The amendment has been approved by the House, and would require ratification by three-quarters of the states if it were passed by the Senate.

The independent Congressional Budget Office calculates that $1,200 billion (£755 million) of spending cuts or extra revenues would be needed over the next seven years to balance the budget. The entire federal budget is $1,500 billion a year.

Just how difficult that would be politically was demonstrated this week when Republican-controlled committees voted to eliminate $21 billion — a comparatively tiny sum — from the present budget approved by the previous Democratic Congress. They pruned everything from school lunches and public broadcasting to housing programmes for the poor and heating subsidies, provoking howls of protest from Democrats.

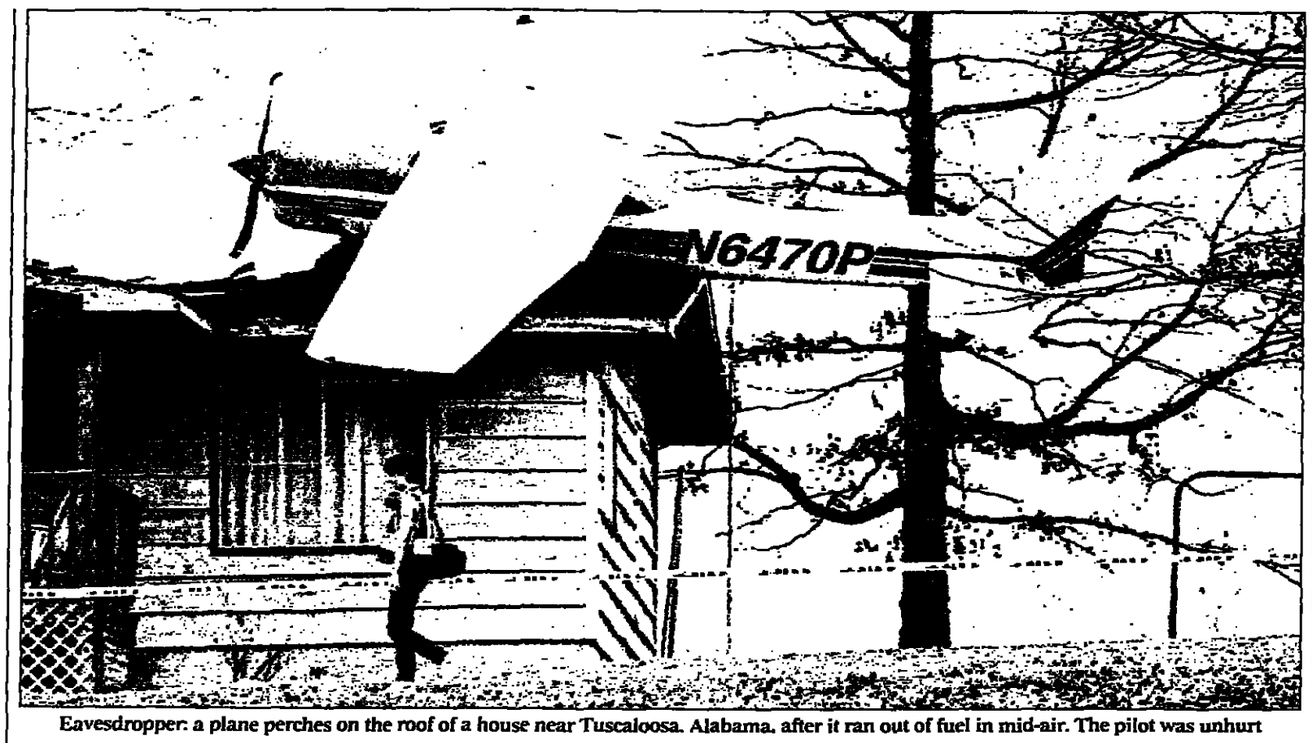
The Republicans acquired their first 1996 presidential candidate yesterday, when Phil Gramm, a Texas senator, announced he would stand. His campaign had been given a flying start by a record-breaking $4.1 million fund-raising gala the previous night.

At rousing rallies in Texas, his native Georgia and New Hampshire, Mr Gramm announced he would run on a platform of uncompromising fiscal rectitude. He said that Washington's profligacy was destroying the American dream, and promised not to seek a second term unless he balanced the budget within four years.

Mr Gramm, 52, also pledged, if elected, to end immediately all "affirmative action" programmes providing special treatment for racial minorities. This is rapidly becoming the issue with which the Republicans plan to break the fragile Democratic coalition, and Mr Clinton has been forced to take action this week.

He has ordered an "intense, urgent review" of all such federal programmes to determine which can be jettisoned. If the Republicans seek to overturn the ones that genuinely tackle discrimination, the Democrats will brand them racists.

☐ **Ottawa:** Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, who spent the night in a hospital here because of a bleeding stomach ulcer, was due to return to Washington last night where he will be admitted to hospital. *(Reuter)*



Eavesdropper: a plane perches on the roof of a house near Tuscaloosa, Alabama, after it ran out of fuel in mid-air. The pilot was unhurt

Victims get rights to attacker's story

Washington: James Brady, the former White House press secretary, and two others wounded in the 1981 attempt to assassinate President Reagan have obtained the rights to the gunman's life story in one of America's strangest legal settlements (Martin Fletcher writes).

John Hinkley, who is locked up in a mental institution, surrendered the rights to the three men this week to end a 13-year lawsuit seeking millions of dollars in compensation. They intend to hawk the story to publishers and Hollywood. If they sell it, they will enrich not only themselves but the man who shot them.

Mr Brady and his fellow victims will keep 80 per cent of the proceeds up to $2.9 million (£1.8 million). All the rest will go into a trust fund for Hinkley, who has agreed to cooperate fully with potential biographers.

Hinkley shot and wounded Mr Reagan outside a Washington hotel, apparently to impress the actress Jodie Foster, with whom he was obsessed. He was found not guilty by reason of insanity.



President Reagan moments after he was shot in 1981

Coyotes close in on New York

FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE long-suffering citizens of New York now have to contend with the possibility of finding wild coyotes roaming the streets.

Two of the animals, sometimes known as prairie wolves, were found dead in the city's northern reaches earlier this month, and a third is believed to be living in a cemetery near the Bronx Zoo. A local couple fed the animal with leftover spaghetti, believing it to be a stray dog.

Once a fixture of the Wild West, coyotes have spread from the southwestern states to great swaths of North America as forests have been felled and wolves, their natural rivals, disappeared.

The coyote eats rabbits, rodents, birds and other small animals, as well as larger dead animals in winter. In recent years, they have been seen in Los Angeles, Chicago and Philadelphia and specialists say it is only a matter of time before they establish themselves in New York.

Lawyer risks jail in O. J. trial outburst

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

A PROSECUTOR in the murder trial of O.J. Simpson came near to being jailed when he took almost half an hour to apologise after being cited for contempt of court.

It was an episode of startling petulance and heavy breathing towards the end of a week of such tedious testimony that court observers were seen nodding off. Christopher Darden, the Deputy District Attorney, lost his temper when discussing a video of police working at the scene of the murders of Nicole Brown Simpson, the defendant's former wife, and Ronald Goldman, her friend.

Frustrated after hours of nitpicking — and in his view misleading — cross-examination of Detective Tom Lange by Johnnie Cochran, the Defence Attorney, Mr Darden rose to Mr Cochran's bait at a conference held out of the jury's earshot. "They obviously haven't tried any cases in a long time and obviously don't know how," Mr Cochran had said, attempting to dismiss prosecution objections to the video. Mr Darden took it as a personal taunt, replying: "Who is he talking about, doesn't know how to try a case?" He then interrupted the judge three times, refused to apologise when cited for contempt of court, and asked permission to consult his own lawyer.

Judge Lance Ito invited him to take three, then ten, "deep breaths". Grudgingly, Mr Darden at last apologised, leaving a delighted Mr Cochran to tell reporters afterwards: "It was an incredible day. I'm happy, and I'm going home."

The episode was a tactical coup for the defence, which may have lost a crucial witness earlier in the week. Kathleen Bell, who claims Detective Mark Fuhrman made racist remarks to her in the mid-1980s, has said she will not testify unless subpoenaed. Mr Fuhrman's alleged racism is central to defence claims that police framed Mr Simpson, who pleads not guilty to the murders. The trial continues on Monday.

WORLD SUMMARY

Britain to give aid for camps

London: Britain is to provide £500,000 towards a plan to improve security in the camps for Rwandan refugees in Zaire, where gunmen supporting extremist Hutu nationalism have been terrorising the population and preventing them from returning home (Michael Binyon writes). The grant, announced by Baroness Chalker, the Overseas Development Minister, coincided with a three-day visit to Britain by Faustin Twagiramungo, the Rwandan Prime Minister. He left yesterday evening for Belgium after talks with ministers.

Murder gang members shot

Cape Town: South African police have shot and killed three men linked to the murder of a Briton and the wounding of his French colleague last month. Steven Rainbird, 32, from Sussex, was shot in the chest on January 31 on a wine estate near Stellenbosch, where he was taking part in an exchange programme. Police said the three men were killed after a car chase, and three others were arrested. *(Reuter)*

Russia eases law on HIV

Moscow: The Russian parliament yesterday passed an amended version of a controversial draft law, dropping a provision requiring all visitors to prove that they do not have HIV, the virus that can cause Aids. The draft law now stipulates that only those coming to Russia for more than three months need certificates showing that they are free of HIV. *(Reuter)*

On the scent

Paris: French customs have discovered a British ring dealing in fake French perfumes, Customs officials said yesterday. A traffic inspection at a toll road in southwestern France found 7,320 bottles of perfume in a British van bound for Spain. Two unidentified Britons have been detained. *(AFP)*

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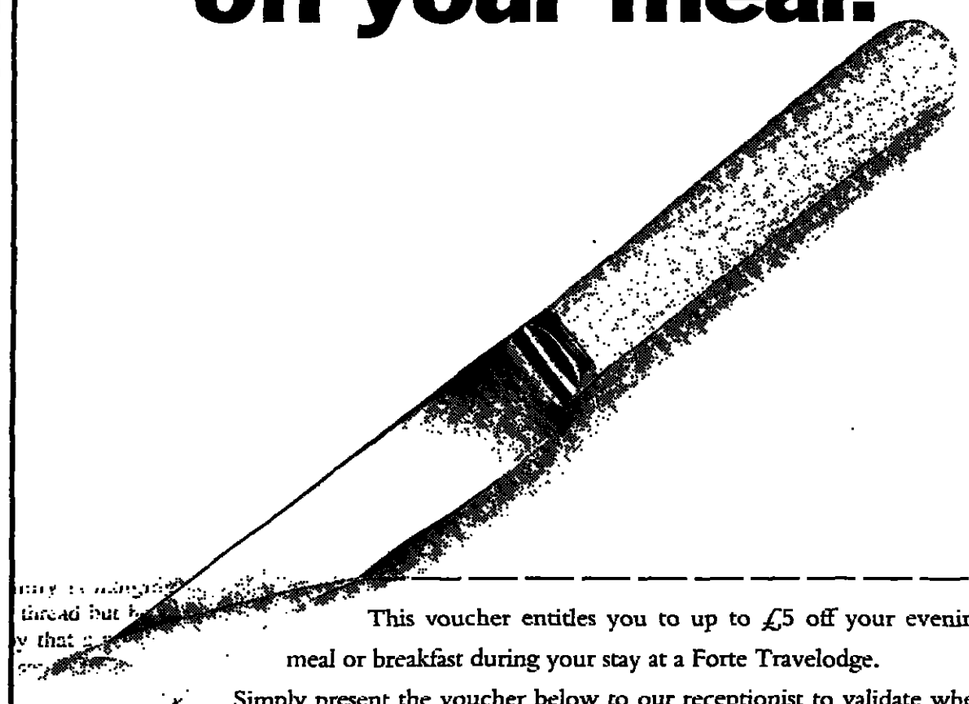
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Bernard Levin says the self-regarding luvvies of the theatre world should just get used to the slings and arrows of outrageous critics

A critical pasting is small Fry

If you ain't praisin' them, they ain't listenin'. That wise and true apophthegm must have been coined in the United States, not a dozen steps from Broadway or perhaps Hollywood, by a cynic who had studied the theatre closely, and truth to tell, there is really nothing more to say on the subject, though of course I shall say a great deal on it, starting now. For, of course, it is not only the American theatre luvvies who apparently cannot abide the heat yet still demand to enter the kitchen, it is ours, too.

Only a week or two ago, I watched a television programme by Stephen Fry and Hugh Laurie; it was very funny indeed, and its funniness was swift, fresh and ingenious. The studio audience laughed long and loud (and genuinely), and I am sure the laughter echoed up and down the land, and rightly.

But soon, they weren't listenin', because we weren't praisin' them.

The motto of the theatre is "The show must go on" (though cynics have been heard to murmur "Why?"), but to give the theatre its due, it really does make sure that the customers never have to be told that the curtain will not go up tonight. But the trouble with that pledge is that it does not take account of the quality of what is to be seen when it does go up. And that is where the critics come in.

If you ain't praisin' them, they ain't listenin'. In this eternal ding-dong ("My play is an imperishable masterpiece, is it not?". "No, your play is a heap of garbage, I'm sorry to say"), the playwright must always lose. The reason he must always lose is — well, I said it nearly a year ago, and I might as well resurrect it now:

> ... the truth is plain to see, but is never told — *never* — not by playwrights, not by actors, not by producers, nay, not even programme-sellers, and, incredibly, the truth is never told by the critics either. That terrible truth-that-must-not-be-revealed is that week in and week out, month in month out, year in and year out, at least 90 per cent of new plays are rubbish without a redeeming feature, *and everyone in and around the theatre knows that to be true.*

I don't know who coined the term "luvvies", but it is appallingly useful, particularly, of course, in the theatre, where deadly enemies embrace, crying, "Darling, you were wonderful!" Now, I have been a theatre critic three times, and to my great astonishment, every time I found that if I praised a play highly, the author and the cast made clear that I was a most perspicacious man and beautiful to boot, whereas if I said of a play that it was a load of ludicrous trash, the author and cast put it around that I was an ignoramus with halitosis.



Fry: did not listen to nanny

Again, I say, "If you ain't praisin' them, they ain't listenin." The critics, I learn were not overwhelmed with the performance of Stephen Fry in *Cell Mates* (I have not seen it, so I cannot comment on his performance). Anyway, he fled the country. I wonder if it had been hailed as the greatest performance since Henry Irving, whether he would have been signing autographs at the stage door till dawn. But the performance would have been the same. Surely nanny told him in his pram that *he could not have his cake before he had finished his bread and butter?*

If I were a cold and stern adjudicator instead of the cuddly figure you know, I would tell Mr Fry loudly that he would do well to ignore the reviews or — better still — not read them. (Sticks and stones can break my bones, but ... remember?) And anyway, I have just gone through these "terrible" reviews, and they made me gasp at their pleasant tone, their mildness, their encouragement and their painlessness.

Ho! Mr Fry wasn't around when I was riding high on the waves of affronted playwrights and players: if he had been, he would long ago have announced that he was going to be a bee-keeper for the rest of his life, stings and all. For in those days, the things that passed for plays would make a man's teeth fall out, let alone his hair. My lifelong friend Robert Muller was the critic for the *Daily Mail*, and I for the *Daily Express* (we were delightfully dubbed "The Kosher Butchers"), and sometimes we were lucky to avoid being murdered.

But look at them now! There's John Gross, the nicest man in England; Jack Tinker, who wouldn't hurt a fly-tower; Benedict Nightingale, who will roar you as gently as any sucking dove, he will roar you as 'twere any nightingale; Michael Billington, who is always teetering on the brink of talking about the *Zeitgeist*; this lot of *pansies couldn't make an actor cry* even if he had a lump of grit weighing half a ton in his eye.

Bah! In days of yore, an actor who got above his station was in danger of being whipped through the streets at the cart's tail and having his ears cut off into the bargain. Myself, I wouldn't go that far, and I suppose docking his pay for a month would make hardly a dent. Moreover, the hoo-ha by now must be worth a quarter of a million or so in advertising, and if I were a very suspicious man, I might even think that somebody — a spare Saatchi, perhaps — had had an idea and suggested that a play about George Blake the traitor might not actually have the customers storming the box office without something to spice it up. (So it is most fortunate that I am not a very suspicious man.) But Shakespeare must have the last wink:

> *'Tis ten to one, this play can never please*
> *All that are here: some come to take their ease*
> *And sleep an act or two ...*

Surely not. Anyway, come back, Mr Fry, all is forgiven, and from luvvie to luvvie, nobody will upbraid you.

● *Bernard Levin writes in* The Times *regularly on Tuesdays and Fridays.*

Major's tough balancing act

Peter Riddell on divisions beyond next week's European vote

John Major is fated to be stuck in a political quagmire. No sooner does he feel secure — after the Cabinet truce on Europe and his widely praised handling of Northern Ireland — than the ground begins to give way again. He faces a close vote in the Commons next Wednesday over Europe. The odds are still that the Government will win then, or in a confidence vote the following day, if only because the nine whipless Tory Euro-rebels will be reluctant to join so blatant a Labour manoeuvre to highlight Tory divisions. But any sense of triumph is likely to be short-lived.

These confrontations have become familiar since the last election — not only during the Maastricht saga but since then over the European Budget Bill. Each time there have been several days of melodrama. The Government's fate is said to hang in the balance, by a knife edge, or whatever the cliché of the day is. Mr Major has survived, but at a big, and cumulative, cost to his standing. How many times can the trick be repeated?

> Everyone is now seen as being in one camp or another

This time, the brinkmanship is likely to continue until Wednesday evening. The Ulster Unionists and the Euro-rebels will keep up the suspense to extract maximum concessions from Mr Major, as well as maximum publicity. In his vivid appeal for the party "to get up off its knees", Mr Major said yesterday he expected every Tory MP to be in the lobby supporting him, not out on College Green squabbling in front of the cameras. But the broadcasting studios will be busy. Tory divisions over Europe will again be underlined, as they were yesterday over Teresa Gorman's referendum Bill.

Mr Major's decision raises the stakes but he had no choice. The Tory party is so split that only he can present the painfully constructed compromises designed to keep the party together. Everyone else is seen as in one camp or another. Mr Major has said Britain will oppose any major constitutional changes at the inter-governmental conference due to start next year and will not join a single currency in 1996-97 even if one is formed then.

That is not far enough for the Euro-sceptics who want participation in a single currency to be ruled out for ever. But that would be unacceptable to Kenneth Clarke and the pro-Europeans. They are prepared to go along with the current position, but only so long as the option of joining is left open.

Mr Major has little room for manoeuvre. There will no doubt be nudges in the direction of the Euro-sceptics, like Mr Hurd's remark yesterday that the decision would not have to be taken for four or five years. And there may be further hints of a possible referendum, though this is still opposed by Mr Clarke and Michael Heseltine.

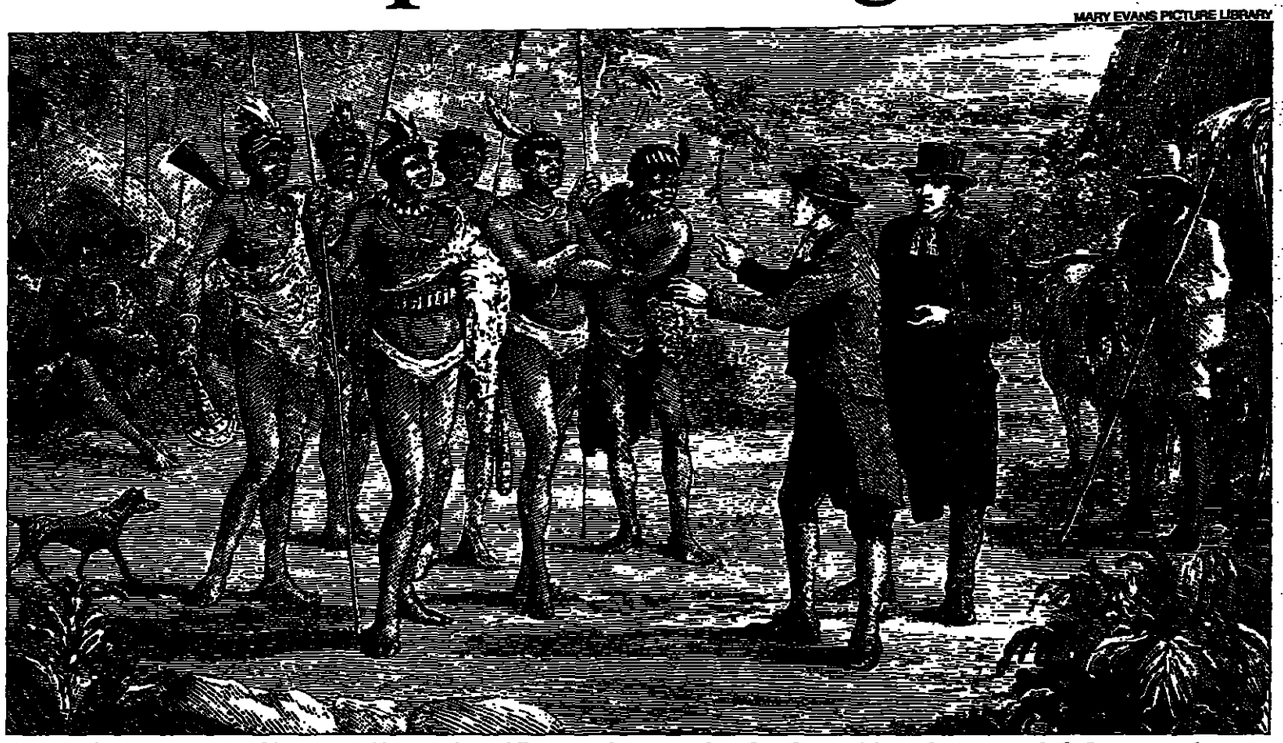
In the end, the outcome will depend on how far the nine Euro-rebels are prepared to push Mr Major before falling into line. The nine Ulster Unionists are now even less predictable. Angered by Wednesday's framework document, they want to show they cannot be taken for granted. But they know they cannot expect any favours from a Labour government. In the past, the Unionists have been willing to wave their orange banners but only to strike when a government is about to collapse.

Even if Mr Major survives next week, there will be plenty of tests ahead — the Perth and Kinross by-election, the local elections in May, the Scott and Nolan reports in the spring, let alone further Euro-hurdles. The Tories' parliamentary position is likely to become ever more precarious, and any display of unity will be fragile. His own leadership could be challenged, though no likely successor stands a better chance of bringing together such a fractious party. When Mr Major urged the Cabinet to unite over Europe ten days ago after the public airing of differences, he waved a press cutting saying the Tories were handing victory to Tony Blair. Next week's vote is unlikely to change the course of that campaign.

The triumph of English

Our infinitely adaptable mother tongue is now the world's lingua franca — and not before time

MARY EVANS PICTURE LIBRARY



A missionary at work in Africa, circa 1800: more than a billion people are now thought to be English-speakers, so easy is the language to learn

Sensational news from across the Atlantic. Representative Peter King this week introduced a Bill into Congress declaring that "English be the official United States language". He wants all federal support for other languages and bilingual programmes to cease forthwith. English, says Mr King, is the "the bond that unites the American people".

This is the moment for which the British have been waiting since the Boston Tea Party. Pitt is cheering in his grave. The Spanish dogs are cringeing in their lairs. As for the French, pouff! They are nowhere to be seen. Their response on Thursday was to expose four CIA men for engaging in "cultural espionage". This is Gallic paranoia. The men were reportedly trying to decipher some "intellectual property" that has long baffled American intelligence, presumably the French language.

Like Mr King, I have always believed that the sooner the world speaks English, the happier and more prosperous it will be. Promoting this language should be a priority of the United Nations. At the last count, 650 artificial world languages have been tried. Esperanto is the latest to collapse. None has worked because English has triumphed. Those who do not speak it are at a universal disadvantage against those who do. Those who deny this supremacy merely seek to keep the disadvantaged deprived. Mr King is right: "By encouraging new Americans to continue to use their native language ... the Government is helping to exclude these immigrants from mainstream society and any access to economic progress."

When I first travelled on the Continent an obligatory item of equipment was the phrasebook. Today most travellers — tourists, students, researchers, businessmen — simply do not bother. Most of the people with whom they have contact reckon to speak English, or are embarrassed if they do not. This is not Anglo-chauvinism or linguistic indolence among English-speakers (though it is partly the latter). It is an economic and cultural fact. English will do in Africa, Russia, the Middle East, India, South-East Asia, Australasia. It will do because English is the language the world wants to learn, as the British Council knows well.

When the Warsaw Pact was wound up, it was wound up in English. When the G7 meets, it meets in English. English is the language of the United Nations antechamber, of international peacekeeping, of world banking, of diplomacy, of air traffic control. English is the language of academic research, space travel and scientific discovery. I am told that only 10 per cent of library requests for science and technology material worldwide are for non-English publications. English is the global computer language. It is the language of news gathering and world entertainment. The only substantial world body that struggles to keep going in a "foreign" tongue is the French-speaking European Commission in Brussels. With luck, enlargement will put an end to that.

Simon Jenkins

Linguists used to attribute the dominance of English to imperial history: "Had it not been for Francis Drake, the world would speak Spanish." Yet Spain, Portugal, The Netherlands and Arabia all have imperial histories. The world's most prominent tongue is Han Chinese, with more than a billion adherents, but it is not one language, being as variegated as French, Spanish or Italian. There are 370 million native English speakers and 240 million Spanish speakers in the world, followed by Hindi, Arabic, Bengali and Russian in that order. Add those who now treat, and use, English as an official language or a lingua franca (such as millions of Indians and Africans) and English shoots over the billion mark. The *Cambridge Encyclopaedia of Language* puts it at a maximum of 1.4 billion speakers.

To deny English supremacy is not to stand up for little nations or for cultural diversity: it simply keeps non-English speakers poor. It also costs millions of pounds in translation. Linguistic chauvinism stops young people getting better jobs and stops their communities from integrating into wider polities. One of the poorest states in south India used to be Kerala. In the 1960s the state government introduced compulsory English into the schools. The state is now one of the richest, since Keralans can do business in an international tongue and find jobs throughout the Middle East. This has not damaged Keralan culture.

English has not won the battle to be the world's language through a trial of imperial strength. As the American linguist Braj Kachru points out, English has achieved its hegemony through its inherent qualities, by "its propensity for acquiring new identities ... its range of varieties and above all its suitability as a flexible medium for literary and other types of creativity."

English has few inflections, endings or cases. Its grammar is based on simple word order. It has no clicks, tones or implosives. Its alphabet is phonetic and has 26 letters (against 74 in Khmer and 85 in Cherokee). A student of Chinese or Japanese must learn 2,000 characters. English script can be scrawled and shorthanded. As a spoken tongue, it may be an ugly duckling alongside Italian or Irish. Yet its pidgins are easy to learn. Any language that can enable Shakespeare to talk to Al Haig is a triumph of communication.

English need not be protected by French Academies, Canadian constitutions or Flemish language rioters. It can survive in the backstreets of Harlem or the opium trails of Burma, on a Soyuz spacewalk or the throne at Buckingham Palace. The world must just take a deep breath and admit that it has a universal language at last. It would save itself much money and trouble. The one quid pro quo it should demand is that English lexicographers bow before the great Webster, and accept American orthography. English spelling is still awful. If we English can alter denie, interiour and musick, we can surely end the absurdity of thorough, centre and enough, if the world is to learn them by heart.

Then linguists can devote themselves to defending and preserving the world's "second" languages, not as rivals of English but as manifestations of ethnic and cultural character. English is a bastard tongue, displaying character only in dialect. To want to protect French from Anglicisation as an international language is a lost cause. To protect French as one of the aesthetic marvels of European civilisation is essential. To insist that Welsh sit alongside English on a Dyfed station or in a Cardiff parking ticket brings ridicule on a lovely language. But by all means encourage it in schools, promote its literature, even subsidise its television channel.

Language is the most vivid trace element of ethnicity in the world's history and geography. I am intrigued that there may once have been 2,000 distinct languages in South America, relics of the primeval grunts that mankind brought across the Aleutian bridge from Siberia in 10,000 BC. Few of them were recorded and only some 600 still survive, most of them still unstudied.

I am equally intrigued by the "isolates", languages whose vocabulary and grammar evolved from the earliest past uncontaminated by any other tongue. Most have gone: among a handful of survivals are the Japanese Ainu, the Mexican Tarasca and the precious, mysterious Basque, Europe's only aboriginal tongue.

These languages merit the protection we give to works of ancient architecture. They are the archaeology of civilisation: full of wisdom, legend and beauty, messages from the Earth's own time-travellers. All this will vanish if linguists expend their energies trying to compete with English. So Congress must vote the King language Bill. John Major might even take a leaf from the same book and demand English language supremacy in Europe at the 1996 summit. That is an act of federalist harmonisation that should warm the most sceptical heart.

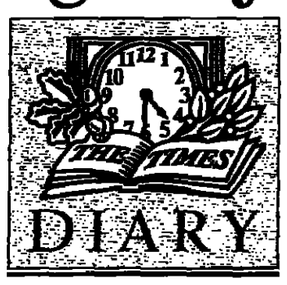
Escort agency

NOTHING is sacred to the Ministry of Defence's accountants. For I hear they want to force our top brass to replace their chauffeur-driven Rover 800s with Ford Escorts. The cost-cutting exercise to downgrade all cars allotted to the highest ranks is under "active examination".

With officers' perks under the microscope, keepers of the MoD's purse are eager to present a more humble image. By the time a batch of new staff cars is purchased by the end of this year, officers of two stars and above fully expect to lose the popular Rovers. The 114 Grade A officers, including chiefs of staff, may find Montegos awaiting them, but most officers are likely to be given Escorts.

Although the military high command is trying hard to accept the threat with equanimity, many officers visibly shudder. "It doesn't do much for the image of senior officers below the two-star level to have to turn up to important functions in an Escort," splutters my man in the MoD.

But military historian General Sir Anthony Farrar-Hockley, who



founded The Parachute Regiment, laughs: "In a period of about 15 years, we have gone down from those enormous Daimlers for most senior officers of four stars and above to Ford Escorts."

Soho story

SO WHAT is Kenneth Clarke doing on Wednesday after John Major puts his premiership on the line over Europe? Showing a nice sense of priorities, our jazz-loving Chancellor plans to slope off to Ronnie Scott's in Soho. Next week's special attraction is the 22-strong National Youth Jazz Orchestra. "It will be Ken's first time seeing us," says the orchestra's young-at-heart leader, Bill Ashton. "But he's got an album which he said he enjoyed."

Clarke may be in good company. Two of his key opponents, the Euro-sceptic Bill Cash, a founder member of the Parliamentary Jazz Club, and Labour's jazz-loving deputy leader, John Prescott, have promised to join in the post-vote stomping.

Immediately before the Prime Minister's crucial vote, Clarke has another pressing engagement. He is due to expound to the Conservative Political Centre on the future of Conservatism.

Horticultured

THE AUTHOR Peter Ackroyd has persuaded the architect Will Alsop to turn the shed in the back garden of his north London home into a library. More used to constructing such large edifices as the visitor centre at Cardiff Bay, the station at Tottenham Hale and the ferry terminal at Hamburg, he was apparently attracted by the challenge of the project.

The 400 sq ft building, which will house several thousand books, will feature a glass front with a long desk stretching from the library through the window panes out into the garden itself. "The idea is to have a fusion between the study and the garden," says one of Alsop's minions. "Will thought it was an unusual project."

"I was delighted when he decided to take it on. Normally he only does huge projects," crows Ackroyd.

● *James Herriot, the pseudonym of the author Alf Wight who died on Thursday, did not write only about animals. A short story called* La Vie en Rose, *which he sent to the magazine* Raconteur *last month, tells instead of a love affair between a married man and a beautiful woman.*

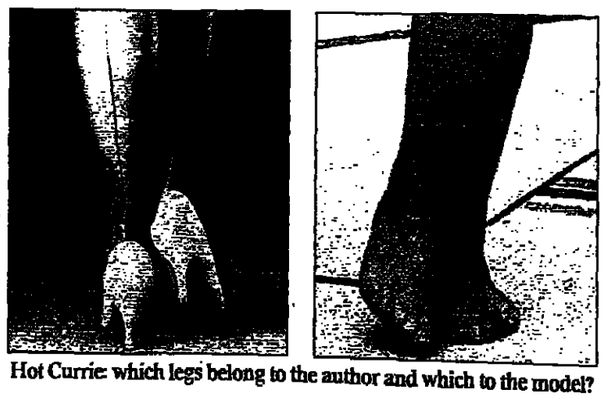


From the blue

STUDENTS at Richmond Drama School in west London gave a highly charged ensemble performance this week. In the midst of an exercise exploring theatrical interpretations of the four elements, the elements themselves put on a spectacular *son et lumière* of their own.

Windows flew open, thunder crashed and a bolt of lightning struck the college, fusing the electrics and burning out the new telephone system. "It was terrifying," says one. "There was a sudden flash of white light and we were all leaping about like mad. Quite an electric performance."

● *A conspiracy of Chief Whips gathered in the office of the present incumbent, Richard Ryder, this week to celebrate 45 years in the Commons of their esteemed colleague, Sir Edward Heath. As Jopling, Pym, Atkin, Renton et al entered the dreaded sanctuary, one Tory MP shuddered: "Just think of the secrets stored in those heads."*



Hot Currie: which legs belong to the author and which to the model?

Pin-up

EVER THE professional, Edwina Currie is to put in some serious legwork to promote the paperback edition of her raunchy novel *A Parliamentary Affair*. The shapely legs of a model will adorn the front cover as they did the hardback, but the well-toned pins of the Tory MP herself will be shown off in the new publicity drive.

She plans to adopt the provocative pose used on the book cover while atop a double-decker bus in Trafalgar Square next month on the way to Olympia's London International Book Fair. However her black stockings will not be adorned by the House of Commons portcullis. Use of the emblem led to Currie having her knuckles rapped by Madame Speaker when it featured on the stockings on the original dustjacket.

"We are hoping she will show a bit of leg, raise her skirt a little," says her publicist. "She's not shameless you know, just very professional."

P·H·S

SALAMAT'S SAFETY

A British refuge from persecution in Pakistan

To the relief of all who cherish the principles of humanity and tolerance, the High Court in Lahore has acquitted Salamat Masih, a 14-year-old Christian, of the charge of blasphemy against Islam. Acqittted, also, was Rehmat Masih, his uncle. Had the court not upheld their appeal against the decision of a judge earlier this month, both would have been sentenced to death.

The case has attracted particular attention in the West — and nowhere more so than in Britain — because of the extreme youth of Salamat, the risible nature of the evidence for the prosecution, and the iniquity of the laws under which the charges were brought. Most disconcerting of all was the hysteria which the case provoked in the more extreme sections of Pakistani society.

A clash of civilisations has occurred in Pakistan. Islamic extremists are in a minority in the country — they polled less than 4 per cent of the vote between them in the last elections — and were unable to prevent a brave defence of the Masihs by lawyers, churchmen and ordinary citizens. Yet those who wished to avenge the "insult" by the two Christians to the Prophet Muhammad commanded a wide and respectful audience — much more so than is healthy for the country and its religious minorities. Pakistan's Christians and Hindus, as well as those who belong to Islamic traditions which the mullahs regard as "heretical", have never been in greater danger. It is to the credit of the two judges who acquitted Salamat and Rehmat that the High Court was able to withstand the intimidation to which it was subjected.

At the root of the problem is the country's blasphemy law, under which a person can be sentenced to death for "insults by imputation or innuendo against Islam" and for "derogatory remarks in respect of the Holy Prophet". All the prosecution need furnish as evidence is the testimony of a single Muslim man. As the valiant Hina Jilani, defence lawyer for Salamat and Rehmat, stated after the acquittal of her clients, "the Government and the legislature must take *this* case as a warning of what can happen as long as the blasphemy law stays on the statute book". There are more than 300 cases of blasphemy pending in various courts across Pakistan. While the majority of the accused are members of "heretical" Islamic sects, some 30 cases involve Christians.

As Ms Jilani also made explicit after their acquittal, there can be no question of Salamat and Rehmat now returning to their village of Ratta Dhotran. All the Christian families of this village have had to flee; and as our South Asia Correspondent wrote yesterday, some Pakistani mullahs have already exhorted Muslims to "bring glory to Islam" by killing Salamat and Rehmat. The lawyer for the prosecution, Rashid Murtaza Qureshi, described the High Court as a "kangaroo court", and accused both Salamat and Rehmat of "working hand-in-glove with Salman Rushdie".

It should be said that, being unlettered, neither Salamat nor Rehmat could have read *The Satanic Verses*. Both Christians are, however — like the author to whom they have infamously been linked — in peril of being murdered by fanatics. The Pakistani authorities now have the task of ensuring their safety, as well as that of their relatives: yet such is the hate with which these Christians are regarded that the authorities may not prove equal to the task. Britain should offer immediate asylum to Salamat and Rehmat, as well as to their families. Let them find refuge in our gentler traditions.

BIRTH OF A NATION

Why the Hundred Years War should be commemorated

The Battle of Agincourt of October 25, 1415 occupies a mythic place in the nation's memory. Henry V's great victory over the French has been an inspiration to Englishmen since the day it was won. "Gentlemen in England now a-bed, Shall think themselves accursed they were not here," says Shakespeare's King. More recently, Olivier and Branagh have brought the battle to life on screen. Tomorrow, the Battlefields Trust is holding a debate in London in which the tactics of the English archers will be the subject of fierce debate.

As much as any other great battle, Agincourt has become a fixture in our national culture. Yet the conflict of which it was a part, the Hundred Years War, excites comparatively little interest. Most Britons know Henry's great triumph. Fewer are familiar with the Battle of Crécy in 1346 at which Philip VI of France was defeated by Edward III; or the great victory won by Edward the Black Prince at Poitiers ten years later. The war's great chroniclers, such as Froissart, are little known in this country.

This gap in our collective knowledge would be less important were the Hundred Years War not such a vital chapter in the formation of our national identity. In origin, the battles fought between England and France from 1337 and 1453 reflected traditional rivalries in Gascony and Flanders. But the war gradually became a more elemental struggle between two emerging nations, a crucible in which many of the key features of Englishness were forged.

The administration of the realm, in particularly, matured dramatically in the course of the conflict. The evolution of Parliament as a tax-raising representative institution was accelerated by the demands and opportunities of war. The monarchy, too, strengthened its position as the institutional symbol of national cohesion in time of adversity, not least by its association with pageantry and ritual celebrating military success. The grand celebrations of October 1416 to celebrate the first anniversary of Agincourt typified this new dramatisation of the national spirit.

The champions of embryonic Englishness spoke of the nation as the new Israel. In his sermons of the 1370s, Bishop Brinton of Rochester suggested to his flock that God was, in fact, English. Special prayers for the King's armies became common. The French were caricatured in nationalist propaganda as naturally deceitful and spineless. A demotic tone entered the patriotic tracts of even the most genteel authors. Laurence Minot, the Yorkshire verse-writer, claimed that Edward III had attacked the French King in 1340 "to shac him by the berd". Out of long antagonism, a language of national pride began to emerge.

In the debate about European integration, it has become fashionable to suggest that British identity is a very recent construct and — by implication — less sacrosanct than Euro-sceptics would claim. Many federalists have invoked Linda Colley's controversial book, *Britons*, which ascribes the birth of modern Britain in the 18th century to shared Protestant opposition to France, to Catholicism and to other ethnic groups. Professor Colley's account of the circumstances in which Britishness emerged has much to recommend it. Yet it should not be forgotten that a much older sense of Englishness underpinned the new identity of the 1707 Union. That identity sprang in large part from a century-long war with our nearest European neighbour. To recall the glory of Agincourt is to realise how long these islands have sought to be distinctive and how deep the roots of nationhood really are.

KING OF THE DAFFODILS

Every little bulb carries a germ of horticultural history

Here come the brave daffodils again, earlier each year because of their increasingly precocious varieties. They now show months before the first spring tourist dares. Next Wednesday is St David's day, and there are few parts of the United Kingdom in which the narcissi are not blowing their trumpets. Even people who never stir from the inner city rejoice at the return of the native flower of spring to parks, window-boxes and vases.

But Martin Harwood is lord of the Lenten lilies, for he has 100,000 of them growing in his garden. As we report in today's Weekend section, Mr Harwood is the official custodian of the National Collection of Narcissi, and so the patron of daffodil-lovers. He grows 2,800 cultivated varieties of narcissi, jonquils and other daffodils, and hundreds of wild species in his suburban garden. This is the largest collection of one kind of plant in the country. But other keepers of Britain's floral heritage collect other species. They exhibit such characteristics as the passion for collecting complete sets, the creative instinct, and a competitive urge to produce a better display than the folk next door.

Gardeners have usually shown some of these characteristics in an effort to improve their plot. But as garden history becomes a systematic study, historians have realised that standardisation by garden centres and industrial horticulture is causing old varieties of plants to become extinct. Gardeners buy their seeds, bulbs and corms in packets instead of growing them themselves and exchanging them with fellow-gardeners. So unfashionable and unprofitable varieties are vanishing before the advance of the mass-produced herbaceous borders. Between 500 and 1,000 varieties of garden plant are lost each year.

Accordingly in 1978 the National Council for the Conservation of Plants and Gardens was formed to preserve these species threatened by unnatural selection. There are now more than 600 national collections in Britain, from the 57 cultivars of beech tree in the charge of the Prince of Wales at Highgrove, to 1,001 pots in the backyard of Ray Stevenson, a teacher in Northumberland. Mr Stevenson keeps the National Collection of Sedum (succulent little stonecrops).

The botanical definition of the NCCPG is "the networked living germplasm repository". Such a definition misses the poetry as much as labelling a daffodil *Narcissus pseudonarcissus*. Mr Harwood and his fellow keepers of the national collections are preservers of the horticultural past and guarantors of its future. Because of their green fingers and aching backs, there are plants which are extinct today in their natural habitat but still survive in British gardens. By their labour of love, the keepers of the national collections are horticultural historians. Even frail flowers preserve the past as well as making promises for the future. But unlike artefacts, they display the immortality of eternal renewal as well as brighter dress than Madonna in all her glory. Those daffodils are living heritage as well as the punctual announcers of spring.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Spies and their influence in a cloak-and-dagger world

From Lord Mayhew

Sir, I believe I know quite as much as, if not more than, either Colonel Lyubimov (letter, February 23) or Mr Gordievsky about "KGB agents of influence".

I tangled with them, often on personal terms, throughout my political life — in the pre-war student socialist movement, in the Labour Party and the unions, in the Foreign Office under Ernest Bevin (running, among other things, anti-communist propaganda) and as a defence spokesman, persecuted by unilateralists, in both the Labour and Liberal parties.

What is a "KGB agent of influence"? Not, of course, a spy: he, or she, would be a "KGB agent". I knew some of them: they were in a different class.

Broadly, an "agent of influence" was a person of genuine political conviction who accepted political guidance from the KGB (often unaware that he was dealing with the KGB). Nothing illegal, or even immoral, about that: just breathtakingly bad judgment.

Where Colonel Lyubimov goes wrong is in suggesting that because these people were not agents in the usual sense, and because their status was inflated in KGB reports to Moscow, they were unimportant. This is far from the truth. These people had a profound and baleful influence in British left-wing politics and on British-Soviet relations.

Already Marxists, or near-Marxists, their views were easily reinforced by their tactful and well-informed Soviet friends. (At the Foreign Office after the war I would read intercepts of their telephone conversations; though I soon gave this up, through boredom and distaste.)

They would readily accept briefing on "peace" and "coexistence", and this would in due course be reflected in resolutions at union branches and local Labour parties, in MPs' postbags (including my own), in the *Daily Worker*, *Tribune*, the *New Statesman* and *The Guardian*, and in the literature of CND and numerous "front" organisations.

This added up to a useful Soviet weapon against Nato, German rearmament, Polaris, cruise and similar critical issues. At certain moments, more "agents of influence" might well have swung the issue the wrong way.

Colonel Lyubimov underrates the influence of his predecessors in the KGB.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER MAYHEW,
House of Lords.
February 23.

From Mr Brian Crozier

Sir, It is hardly possible not to be interested in Colonel Mikhail Lyubimov's letter but it should be borne in mind that Oleg Gordievsky is not exactly popular among his former colleagues in Moscow, where indeed he is still under sentence of death.

The Western term, "agent of influence", sounds more accusatory than the euphemistic KGB equivalent: "confidential contact", which indeed corresponds more closely to what the British secret services call "unconscious" and the American call "unwitting" agents.

I have never believed Michael Foot to be, even "unconsciously", a KGB agent, and he was frequently and outspokenly critical of Soviet actions. It is surely not unfair, however, to point out that the Labour Party, under Michael Foot's leadership, came increasingly under the influence of the Soviet-line British Communist Party (CPGB), both in the constituencies and through the trade unions.

The case of Harry Hopkins is quite different. The American specialist on communist affairs, Herbert Romerstein, was informed by a high-ranking KGB contact in Moscow that Hopkins was not merely a "confidential contact" of the NKVD (a predecessor of the KGB) but a paid and therefore fully conscious agent of influence. He was thus largely responsible for President Roosevelt's and Winston Churchill's explicit trust in Stalin. Further details appear in my autobiography, *Free Agent*, which *The Times* kindly serialised in 1993.

Yours faithfully,
BRIAN CROZIER,
Flat AA, 1 Carlisle Place,
Westminster, SW1.
February 23.

From Mr Oleg Gordievsky

Sir, Colonel Lyubimov, a great admirer of Leon Trotsky and Kim Philby, has a love-hate attitude towards Britain. Although he loves the country tenderly, he devoted much of his life to breaking down its society, recruiting British people for the KGB and organising black propaganda. One of his most important personal achievements was a PhD thesis entitled "The English national character and how it may be used to recruit Englishmen into the KGB". A large part of it was dictated by his kind friend Kim Philby.

While working in London in the 1960s, Lyubimov cultivated British politicians and in certain cases personally distributed money. He was expelled from the country for attempting to recruit an important government official.

I once asked him why it was that during his time in London he used such ridiculous methods as, for example, forcing his contacts among the ranks of public figures to run to secret meetings, using dead-letter boxes and foisting cash on them. He replied that it was necessary in order to increase their discipline in their relations with the KGB and was also useful for the forthcoming "crisis situation" (the war between East and West).

Lyubimov also knows perfectly well that the KGB used to infiltrate political parties, not with a view to getting its hands on the party's secrets, but with the aim of having its agents in the government when that party came to power.

But why is Lyubimov now trying to tone down both his and the KGB's role in Britain? Because the KGB, which hates embarrassing publicity, wants it and Lyubimov is subservient to its will. In 1985 the KGB wrongly accused him of helping me escape from the USSR to the West and tried to punish him. Lyubimov was frightened to death. Since then he has been obliged to consult with the KGB before publishing anything in the British press.

In Britain some hardcore agents are serving prison sentences. Other friends of the KGB limited their relations with it to enjoying lavish lunches, crates of vodka and occasional cash pay-outs in return for political gossip and pro-Soviet conference speeches.

Yours etc,
OLEG GORDIEVSKY,
c/o 79 St Martin's Lane, WC2.

From Mr George Walden, MP for Buckingham (Conservative)

Sir, Colonel Lyubimov's letter from Moscow gets close to the heart of our latest little spy drama. The episode is nicely revealing of the element of illusion in our national temperaments. Just as we bolster our post-imperial self-importance by dramatising anything remotely to do with intelligence, so, in farcically overplaying the significance of their British contacts to please their bosses, the KGB were illustrating the trait of fantasy and dissimulation in the Russian character.

It is all there in the national literature. In *The Government Inspector* by Gogol, the small-time wastrel Khlestakov astounds provincial ladies by his claims of intimacy with the great: "I hob-nob quite a bit with Pushkin, ya know. 'So how's it going, Pushers old boy?' I say to him. 'So-so' he says to me, 'not so bad'. What a card that man is ..." In the Sixties, Khlestakov would have been in the KGB, and made a top secret telegram of that. *Our Man in Havana* was up to similar tricks.

More to the point would be a sober reappraisal by Mr Foot and the others of their record of indulgence towards Stalinist Russia.

Yours faithfully,
G. G. H. WALDEN,
House of Commons.
February 23.

Oxbridge club

From the Reverend David Galilee

Sir, It is surely a political commonplace that the present healthy state of the Labour Party is in no small part due to the stature of a Denis Healey, who stayed to fight his corner, rather than to a Roy Jenkins, who deserted it.

The mass resignation of the "great and the good" from the Oxford and Cambridge Club (report and letter, February 23) is sad and has a whiff of sectarian spirit and gesture politics. Having a wife who is a Cambridge graduate, who cannot be a full member of the club nor use its wonderful library, has always struck me as a nonsense.

Similarly, the exclusion of women from the priesthood always seemed to me a nonsense, but patience and rational argument in the end prevailed. Presumably those of your distinguished signatories who shared my premises on that issue also shared my conclusion and did not resign their membership of the Church of England.

For the sake of argument, say the present Oxford and Cambridge Club collapsed and had to shut down, what of the livelihoods of its excellent and loyal staff who have served it so well over many years? There is a moral case for staying in the club and pursuing necessary reforms.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID GALILEE,
St Mildred's Vicarage,
Sefton Road, Croydon, Surrey.
February 23.

Driven to distraction

From Mr Trevor Williams

Sir, Mr Anthony G. Phillips (letter, February 20), is quite right in decrying what may be described as linguistic inflation, and the impetus towards redundancy seems to increase. Thus, we demand a haven; and, not just a haven — a *safe* haven.

Yours,
TREVOR WILLIAMS,
18 Churchways Avenue,
Horfield, Bristol, Avon.
February 21.

From Mr Philip D. Badrock

Sir, With due respect to Mr Phillips, my favourite barmaid at my local pub knows instantly what I have in mind when I order "two halves".

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP D. BADROCK,
Outwood, South Hill,
Chislehurst, Kent.
February 20.

Dresden ceremony

From General Klaus Naumann, Chief of Staff of the Bundeswehr

Sir, As a reader of *The Times* for many years I was unhappy to read your report (February 14) on the recent ceremony in Dresden commemorating the 50th anniversary of the city's destruction.

It is untrue to state that "it has been a long time since Dresden saw a British military uniform". Field Marshal Sir Peter Inge had already visited Dresden on September 22-23, 1994, together with members of the Nato military committee; both he and the chairman of the committee, Field Marshal Sir Richard Vincent, wore British uniform when they visited the Semper Opera and while they walked for hours in the city, talking to people who showed no signs whatever of not liking uniforms.

The same is true for February 13. The three of us — Sir Peter Inge, General Shalikashvili and I — deliberately walked from one place to another in the centre of Dresden wearing our uniform and met no unfriendly reaction at all. Having seen the faces of many of my compatriots I would say that, on the contrary, Dresdeners observed the presence of my allied comrades with deep sympathy.

Many Germans told me that they considered it as a highly important and touching gesture when the three Chiefs of Defence Staff laid wreaths at the Heidefriedhof. This was a commemoration of the victims; it was also a signal of hope for the future because the adversaries of 50 years ago have long become friends.

Finally, the suggestion that it was on this occasion that I informed General Shalikashvili that Bonn would supply military hospital staff and Tornados in the event of a UN withdrawal from Bosnia is nonsense. That information (which is subject to parliamentary approval) was given to Nato last December.

Yours sincerely,
KLAUS NAUMANN,
Bundesministerium der Verteidigung,
53003 Bonn.
February 21.

Role of honour

From Mr Neil Addison

Sir, News that councillors in Nottingham have failed to agree on the appointment of a new sheriff (report, February 23) is hardly surprising. This ancient office has for too long been seen as an honour without a role.

Sheriffs played an important role in English legal history. Local magistrates should choose them and either senior local magistrates or local circuit judges should be appointed.

Yours sincerely,
NEIL ADDISON,
5 Garsdale Road,
Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear.
February 23.

Seen and noted

From Mr D. W. Sykes, FRCOG

Sir, As a first-year medical student, I looked at my notes ("Whose notes are they anyway?", Body and Mind, February 14) when my family GP left the room to get a dressing for a rugby injury. The previous entry read: "Says he wants to be a doctor — silly mutt!"

Yours faithfully,
D. W. SYKES,
Eastcliff House,
Budleigh Salterton, Devon.

Weekend Money letters, page 35

Odious comparisons

From Professor R. T. B. Langhorne

Sir, A fashion has developed for drawing historical parallels in discussing the present travails of the Government. A favourite, and apposite, example has been the collapse of the Conservative Cabinet in 1905, destroyed by internal divisions over tariff reform.

This instance may indeed be useful in the context of the crisis facing the Conservatives, but it is also uncomfortable for the Opposition. The huge Liberal majority delivered by the general election of 1906 lasted for just four years, after which a constitutional crisis produced two elections in 1910, resulting in a tie between the two major parties.

Although the Liberal Cabinet survived into the First World War, relying on the support of the Irish (who were promised Home Rule), the Liberal Party thereafter faded steadily away and never won another election.

Yours faithfully,
R. T. B. LANGHORNE
(Director, Wilton Park),
Wiston House,
Steyning, West Sussex.
February 21.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

Hymns ancient, modern and to be

From the Chief Executive of the Royal College of Organists

Sir, The report by your Religion Correspondent on February 20 that the General Synod of the Church of England may be invited to consider setting up a Council for Worship, apparently comparable with the functions of the Council for the Care of Churches, will be read with mixed enthusiasm by many of those who are concerned about the vitality of the music-making in our cathedrals and parish churches.

I do not wish to impute an unduly preservationist cast of mind to those who work hard looking after thousands of buildings and their furnishings, especially when so much of their work is inevitably concerned with very ancient structures. However, the approach to matters affecting contemporary worship must surely be shaped by a predominantly creative style.

Your Religion Correspondent also comes close to implying that traditional means old (if not actually fuddy-duddy) and that new means populist. That may or may not be so. But what is undoubtedly needed is a very much greater effort to bring in new music and literary texts of high quality.

There is too little in the repertoires of most cathedral choirs to match the best that can be heard of today's composers in the concert hall and (occasionally) the opera house. There is even less of such music that is appropriate for the resources of average parish church choirs and congregations.

If the General Synod needs a new council (and any sign that the Church as a body cares about this issue would be welcome), then I very much hope that it will set up one that will work dynamically with composers, organists and directors of music to change the current situation.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL NICHOLAS,
Chief Executive,
The Royal College of Organists,
7 St Andrew Street, Holborn, EC4.
February 20.

From Mr Ben Whitney

Sir, I don't know what churches your Religion Correspondent, Ruth Gledhill, has visited when she writes today of organists "unable to master gospel-type rhythms" and "frustrated congregations reduced to silence".

In my experience it is those churches which have *not* adapted to modern styles of singing which are likely to be largely silent — because there is hardly anyone there to do the singing!

Can the traditionalists not grasp that all music was contemporary when it was first written? Singing hymns and songs at all was once seen as a modern innovation. It is a simple case of adapt or die. God is not glorified by the praise uttered by empty buildings.

Yours sincerely,
BEN WHITNEY,
47 Manor Farm Crescent, Stafford.
February 20.

From Mr Howard Evans

Sir, Of course, what Ruth Gledhill doesn't mention is that the evangelical and charismatic churches which use the "meaningless, evangelical choruses" are the only churches in England and Wales that are growing. Could it be that these choruses are seen to be much more meaningful and relevant to the approach of the 21st century than singing hymns often penned in the 18th century, using the kind of English which no one uses any more?

Yours faithfully,
HOWARD EVANS,
Woodvale, Tuckers Villas,
Woodbine Road, Blackwood, Gwent.
February 20.

From Mr M. R. Jackson

Sir, Of the three "traditional" hymns you report (February 20) to be heading the BBC's top ten hymns contest — *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind*, *Jerusalem* and *Abide with Me* — only the third was in *Hymns Ancient & Modern* fifty years ago. *The English Hymnal* of that time published all three, but again only *Abide with Me* was set to its now popular tune.

Songs of Praise was unique in publishing *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind* and *Jerusalem* with the tunes which would maintain popularity half a century later. Was this cultural perception, or was it the widespread use of *Songs of Praise* in schools that shaped current opinion on favourite hymns? If the latter, will *Jerusalem* and *Abide with Me* be around in 2045?

Yours sincerely,
M. R. JACKSON,
12 Peacock Lane,
Hest Bank, Lancaster.
February 20.

Accusing finger

From Mr David Renfrew

Sir, It is not the middle classes who have deserted the Tories (headline, later editions, February 24) but rather the Tories who have deserted the middle classes.

Yours etc,
DAVID RENFREW,
The Chantry,
Ettington, Warwickshire.
February 24.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
February 24: The Duke of Edinburgh today visited Merseyside and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant (Mr Alan Waterworth).

His Royal Highness visited the Hotties Science and Arts Centre, St Helens; Prescot School, Prescot; BICC Cables Limited, Whiston; Nichols Foods, Haydock; and the Royal National Institute for Deaf People's Typetalk Unit, Liverpool.

Major Charles Richards was in attendance.

By Command of The Queen, the Lord Egremont (Deputy Lieutenant of West Sussex) was present at Gatwick Airport, London, this morning upon the Departure of the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas and Lady Turnquest and bade farewell to Their Excellencies on behalf of Her Majesty.

February 24: The Prince Edward, Trustee, The Duke of Edinburgh's Award, today gave a Luncheon at Buckingham Palace.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
February 24: The Prince of Wales today visited Cheshire and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant (Mr William Bromley Davenport).

His Royal Highness, Patron, the National Trust Centenary, this morning visited Styal Country Park and Quarry Bank Mill, Wilmslow.

The Prince of Wales, Patron, the National Trust Centenary, this afternoon visited Lyme Park, Disley, Stockport.

Dr Manon Williams was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
February 24: The Duchess of Gloucester, Patron, London College of Music, was present this evening at a Concert in aid of Winged Fellowship and Cruse at St John's Smith Square, London SW1.

Mrs Euan McCorquodale was in attendance.



JULIAN HERBERT

PC Sarah Loveridge with part of a collection of model vehicles worth £7,500 stolen by burglars in the Home Counties. It is being put on display by Scotland Yard today to try to find the owner (Stewart Tendler writes). The toys are part of a collection of stolen goods worth up to £4 million recovered by police in raids under the Operation Bumblebee drive against burglars. The 70 models were found by police with a special cabinet made to house them during raids in central London. Detectives think they may have been stolen during a burglary in Kent. They join a collection of valuables including a set of religious manuscripts thought to be many centuries old. The display of 6,000 items, at Bromley Civic Centre today and tomorrow, also includes a jet ski and 100 industrial power tools worth up to £1,000 each.

Sir Nicholas Fairbairn of Fordell, QC, MP

A memorial service for Sir Nicholas Fairbairn of Fordell, QC, MP, will be held at St John's Kirk, Perth, at noon on Friday, March 3. All welcome.

Captain C.H. Upham, VC and Bar

A Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Captain Charles Hazlitt Upham, VC and Bar, will be held in St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, at 3pm on Friday, May 5, 1995. Those wishing to attend are invited to apply for tickets, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope, to: The Social Secretary, New Zealand High Commission, Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4TQ.

Royal Horticultural Society

Sir Simon Hornby has been re-elected President of the Royal Horticultural Society and Mr Martin Slocock has been re-elected Treasurer. Captain Peter Erskine, Dr Henry Oakeley and Mr Allen Paterson have been elected to the Council of the Society. Mrs Carolyn Hardy has been re-elected to the Council and Professor Ghillean Prance has been co-opted.

School news

Godstowe Preparatory School
The School Council are pleased to announce the award of the following scholarships for September, 1995.

Academic Scholarship at 8: Jointly awarded to Michelle Brister (Godstowe) and Annabel Ritchie (Appleshaw Primary School, Andover).
Exhibition Award at 11: Pamela Brent (Godstowe).

Church in Wales

The Archbishop of Wales has announced the following appointments:

The Rev Canon Barry Smith, Rector of Wrexham, to be also Chancellor of St Asaph Cathedral.

The Rev Canon E. Glyn Price, Vicar of Llandrillo yn Rhos, to be also Prebendary and Sacrist of St Asaph Cathedral.

The Rev David Philip Dunn Hugh Rees, Vicar of Meliden, the Rev David Vaughan Griffith, Vicar of Colwyn, the Rev John Thelwell, Rector of Hawarden, and the Rev David John Roberts, Vicar of Abergele, to be also Cursal Canons of St Asaph Cathedral.

Latest wills

Sir James William Donald Crane, of St Fagans, Cardiff, HM Inspector of Constabulary 1979-82, a member of the Parole Board 1983-85, and of the Fraud Trials Committee 1984-85, left estate valued at £128,490 net.

Birthdays

Today
Miss Jane Ackroyd, sculptor, 38; Miss Elkie Brooks, singer, 50; Mr Tom Courtenay, actor, 58; Lord Crickhowell, 61; Sir Antony Duff, *diplomat, 75; Sir Alex Gordon,* architect, 78; Mr George Harrison, musician, 52; Mr Edward Kellett-Bowman, MEP, 64; Mr Anthony Lloyd, MP, 45; Dr Harvey McGregor, QC, Warden, New College, Oxford, 69; Mr Hector MacKenzie, trade unionist, 55; Dr *Lewis Moonie, MP, 48; Mr Robert* Neame, brewer, 61; Major-General Sir Laurence New, 63; Sir Roger Parker, former Lord Justice of Appeal, 72; Mr George Paul, chairman, Norwich Union Insurance Group, 55; Sir David Puttnam, film producer, 54; Miss Alison Roberts, fashion designer, 32; Lieutenant-Colonel J.R. Stephenson, former secretary, MCC, 64; Professor Sir Stewart Sutherland, former Vice-Chancellor, London University, 54; Mr A.C.F. Verity, Master, Dulwich College, 56; Sir Ian Wallace, company chairman, 79; Dr G.B. Warren, *biochemist, 47; Sir Michael* Wheeler-Booth, Clerk of the Parliaments, 61; Marshal of the RAF Sir Keith Williamson, 67.

Tomorrow
Mr Paul Ackford, rugby player, 37; Lord Bridge of Harwich, 78; Mr Peter Carter-Ruck, solicitor, 81; Mr *Johnny Cash, singer, 63; Sir Peter* Cazalet, chairman, APV, 66; Mr Frank Copplestone, deputy chairman, Westcountry Television, 70; *Mr David Edgar, playwright, 47;* Mr S.J. Etherington, chief executive, National Council for Voluntary Organisations, 40; Lord *Justice Farquharson, 67; Sir James* Goldsmith, company chairman, 62; Dr B.J. Greenhill, author, 75; Mr Christopher Hope, novelist, 51; Miss Emma Kirkby, soprano, 46; Professor Noreen Murray, molecular biologist, 60; Sir Michael Perry, chairman, Unilever, 61; Mr Tony Selby, actor, 57; Dr Diana Walford, director, Public Health Laboratory Service, 51; Mr E.D. Weekes, cricketer, 70.

Anniversaries

Today
BIRTHS: Carlo Goldoni, dramatist, Venice, 1707; Pierre Renoir, Impressionist painter, Limoges, France, 1841; Enrico Caruso, tenor, Naples, 1873; John Foster *Dulles*, American statesman, Washington DC, 1888; Dame Myra Hess, pianist, London, 1890.
DEATHS: Robert Devereux, 2nd Earl of Essex, soldier and courtier, executed in London, 1601; Albrecht von Wallenstein, soldier and *statesman, assassinated in* Eger, Germany, 1634; Sir Christopher Wren, architect, London, 1723; William Buchan, physician, London, 1805; Thomas Moore, poet and musician, Bromham, Wiltshire, 1852; George Don, naturalist, London, 1855; Paul Julius von Reuter, founder of the news agency, Nice, 1899; Sir John Tenniel, illustrator and cartoonist, London, 1914; George Minot, physician, Nobel laureate 1934, Brookline, Massachusetts, 1915; Alexander Archipenko, sculptor, New York, 1964; Mark Rothko, painter, New York, 1970; Tennessee Williams, playwright, New York, 1983.
Queen Elizabeth I was excommunicated by Pope Pius V, 1570.
Paper currency, known as "greenbacks", was introduced in the United States by President Abraham Lincoln, 1862.
Andrew Johnson, 17th American President 1865-69, was impeached (acquitted in May), 1868.
The first Anderson bomb shelter to be built in Britain was erected in an Islington garden, 1939.

Tomorrow
BIRTHS: Anthony Ashley Cooper, 3rd Earl of Shaftesbury, writer, London, 1671; Victor Hugo, author, Besançon, France, 1802; William Frederick Cody (Buffalo Bill), showman, Scott County, Iowa, 1846; Emile Coué, psychotherapist, Troyes, France, 1857; Frank Bridge, composer, Brighton, 1879.
DEATHS: Thomas d'Urfey, satirist, London, 1723; Giuseppe Tartini, composer, Padua, 1770; Alexander Geddes, biblical critic, London, *1802: John Philip Kemble,* actor-manager, Lausanne, 1823; Alois Senefelder, inventor of lithography, Munich, 1834; *Frederick Tennyson, poet, London,* 1898; Sir Harry Lauder, comedian, Strathaven, 1950; William Ralph Inge, Dean of St Paul's 1911-1934, Wallingford, 1954; Levi Eshkol, Prime Minister of Israel 1963-69, Jerusalem, 1969; Karl Jaspers, Existentialist philosopher, Basel, 1969.
£1 and £2 bank notes were issued for the first time, 1797.
Napoleon escaped from Elba, 1815.
The first Grand National steeplechase was run at Aintree, 1839.
The steamer *Birkenhead* was wrecked off Cape Colony with the loss of 485 lives, 1852.

Service dinners

Pembroke Yeomanry
The annual dinner of the Pembroke Yeomanry was held last night at the RAC Ranges, Castlemartin, to mark the anniversary of the French surrender at Fishguard.

The Queen's Flight Association
Air Commodore the Hon T.C. Elworthy, Captain of The Queen's Flight, presided at the annual dinner of The Queen's Flight Association *held at RAF Benson.*

University of Birmingham Air Squadron
Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Alcock, Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Logistics Command, was the principal guest at the annual dinner of the University of Birmingham Air Squadron held last night at RAF *Cosford. Squadron Leader* K.S. Crombie, Commanding Officer, presided. The Air Officer Commanding and Commandant, RAF College Cranwell, the Pro Vice-Chancellor and Assistant Director of Wolverhampton University and members of the West Midlands Education Committee were among those present.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr S.M. Aron and Miss L.B. Symons
The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Jennifer and Mayer Aron, and grandson of Mrs Lola Newton, and Laura, daughter of Carol and Sidney Symons, and granddaughter of Mrs Raye (Booba) Freedman.

Mr R.H.R. Barton and Lady Louisa Feilding
The engagement is announced between Richard, elder son of Mr and Mrs *Brian Barton,* formerly of Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire, and Louisa, younger daughter of the Earl and Countess of Denbigh, of *Newnham* Paddox, Monks Kirby, Warwickshire.

The Hon M.H. Dickinson and Miss C.S. Edwards
The engagement is announced between Martin, elder son of Lord Dickinson, of Painswick, and Mrs Ann Dickinson, of Stroud, and Caroline Sally, daughter of Mr Nigel Edwards and Mrs Jill Edwards, both of Bristol.

Mr G.S. Little and Miss J.A. Hoy
The engagement is announced between Graham, elder son of Mr and *Mrs* R.S. Little, of Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire, and Jacqueline, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Hoy, of Dover, Kent.

Mr F.F. McGarrity and Miss E. Wood
The engagement is announced between Forsyth, son of Mr and Mrs J.F. McGarrity, of Linlithgow, Scotland, and Erin, elder daughter of the late Ian Wood and of Mrs Shirley Wood, of Auckland, New Zealand.

Mr D.M.M. Morley and Miss L.M. Clark
The engagement is announced between Dominic, elder son of Mr Jonathan Morley and the Hon Mrs Kirsty Smallwood, and Lesley, daughter of Mr John Clark and Mrs Patricia Booth.

Mr A.M. Penton and Miss A. Troth
The engagement is announced between Adam, only son of Mr and *Mrs D.R. Penton, of Duffield,* and Annelise, only daughter of Mr and Mrs K.A. Troth, of Tunbridge Wells.

Mr R.E. Roberts and Miss R.E. Bacon
The engagement is announced between Richard, second son of *Mr and Mrs* D.F. Roberts, of Repton, Derby, and Rachel, daughter of Dr and Mrs M.A. Bacon, of Dore, Sheffield.

Mr P.J. Sands and Miss C. Simmonite
The engagement is announced between Philip, younger son of Mr and Mrs Martin Sands, of Empingham, Rutland, and Christine, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs John Simmonite, of Bessacarr, Yorkshire.

Mr M.H.S. Watney and Miss L.M. Winsborough
The engagement is announced between Michael, son of Lady Katherine Watney and the late Mr Antony Watney, of Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, and Louise, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Winsborough, of Hindhead, Surrey.

Marriage

Mr T.J. Parkman and Miss G.P. Yuan
The marriage took place on February 18, 1995, at Juhu Beach, Bombay, between Mr Timothy John Parkman, of London, N1, and Miss Gitmei Penny Yuan, of Malwani, Malad (West), Bombay.

Receptions

HM Government
Sir Hector Monro, Minister for Sport at the Scottish Office, was the host at a reception given by Her Majesty's Government yesterday in Edinburgh Castle to mark the centenary of the Scottish Lawn Tennis Association.

Westminster School
The Head Master of Westminster School held a Reception on Thursday, February 23, in Ashburnham House after the Henry Tizard Memorial Lecture given by Professor H.W. Kroto, FRS, Royal Society Research Professor, University of Sussex. The Chairman was Professor Alan Carrington, FRS, Royal Society Research Professor, Southampton *University,* and among the guests were representatives from a number of schools and other educational and scientific establishments.

Dinner

Cambridge '99 Rowing Club
Mr Bob Arnold, President of the Cambridge '99 Rowing Club, presided at a dinner held last night at the University Arms Hotel, Cambridge. The Vice-Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, the President of Cambridge University Boat Club, the organiser of the university boat race, and the club captain, also spoke. *During the dinner the Lord Lieutenant* of Cambridgeshire presented the Briscoe Oar to Mr Arnold. The High *Sheriff of Cambridgeshire attended.*

Church services tomorrow

Seventh Sunday before Easter

ABERDEEN CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.15 S Euch. Darke in F, Rt Rev R Halliday; 6.30 Choral E. Stanford in B flat. The Provost.

BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 11 Choral Euch, Rev Dr B Russell; 4 Choral E.

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL College Green: 8 HC: 9.15 Choral M. *The Bell Anthem (Purcell);* 10.30 Euch. Day in B flat. Canon J Hall: 4 Choral E. I love the Lord (Harvey). The Provost.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.30 M: 11 S Euch. Coronation/Missa Brevis (Walton). O taste and see (Vaughan Williams). The Dean: *3.15 E. Responses (Ayleward). Weelkes for five* voices. O salutaris hostia (Tallis): 6.30 Compline. Rev R Symon.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 10.30 S Euch. The Kent Service (Ferguson). Canon R Chapman: 3 E. In pace (Blitheman). Responses (Reading). *Murrill in E. I waited for the Lord* (Mendelssohn).

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP: 8 HC: 9.30. The Provost. 11.15 Euch. Canon B Thompson: 4 B: 6 Choral E. Responses (Ferial). Turn thy face from my sins (Attwood). Rev J Jones.

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 8 C; 10.30 Euch. Jackson in G. Purge me O God (Tallis). It is a thing (Ireland). Rt Rev J Taylor; 3 German Lutherans; 3 Polish Lutherans: 5.30 E. Purge me O God (Tallis). Responses (Byrd). Harris in A. Though I speak (Bairstow).

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8. 11.15 HC. Missa brevis (Berkeley). May the grace of Christ our Saviour (Lloyd). Canon D Hodgson; 10 M. Te Deum in G (Vaughan Williams). When Jesus sat at meat (Nicolson). Canon D Brown: 3.30 E. Howells in B minor. Let all the world (Vaughan Williams).

ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch. Missa Brevis (Mozart). Ave Verum (Philips). The Dean; 3.45 E. Preces (Rose). Wesley in E. *Love bade me welcome (Vaughan Williams).*

EXETER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch. O Lord increase our faith (Loosemore). Ley in B flat. Let all mortal flesh keep silence (Bairstow). The Treasurer: 11.15 M. Responses (Rose). Statham in F. Britten in C. Sing we merrily (Campbell). Rev J Delves; 3 E. Responses (Rose). Ireland in F. Though I speak with the tongues of men (Bairstow); 6.30 E. Greater love (Ireland). Rev Preb Dr P Avis.

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 MP; 10.30 S Euch. Darke in F. Jesu Word of God Incarnate (Mozart). *The Archdeacon: 4 Choral E.* Responses (Smith). The first service (Gibbons). The Chancellor.

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8. 12.30 HC: 9.30 S Euch. Messe solennelle (Vierne). The Dean: 11.15 M. Short Service (Gibbons). O Lord increase our faith (Loosemore). Responses (Tomkins); 2 Guide's Service: 3.45 E. Responses (Ayleward). Purcell in E minor. O God thou art my God (Purcell). Canon D Atkinson.

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch. Schubert in G. Jubilate in E flat (Britten). Ave *verum (Mozart). The Dean: 3.30 E. Responses* (Smith). Jesus Service (Mathias). Insanae et vanae curae (Haydn).

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: 10.30 Euch. Liverpool Mass (Rawsthorne). Canon D Hutton: 3 Choral E. Coll Reg (Howells). Rev G *Davies: 4 HC.*

LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M: 8. 12.15 H Euch. The Dean: 9 Euch, Rev N J Court: 11 S Euch. Missa Seraphica (Burgess). Gloria (Shaw). Creed (Merbecke). In the heart where love is abiding (Barnard). The Canon: 3.30 Choral E. Responses (Ebdon). Wood in D. *Love* Divine (Nicholson): 6.30 E. Rev J Redvers.

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8.45 MP: 9 HC: 10.30 S Euch. Agnus Dui (Byrd). Canon J Atherton: 6.30 E. Responses (Plainsong). The Dean.

NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL: 8. Canon P Strange: 9.30 Mrs M Wood; 6 E. To thee O Lord (Rachmaninov). Responses (Ferial). Stanford in G.

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10 Euch. *Missa vinum bonum (Lassus). Canon D* Durston; 11.30 M. Canon J Stewart; 3 E. Hear my prayer (Purcell). Responses (Rose). Gloucester Service (Howells). Bring us O Lord God (Harris); 4.15 B.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 11 Choral Euch. Messe solennelle. Love bade me welcome (Vaughan Williams). O salutaris hostia (Elgar). Rev Canon R Royle: 3 E. Fifth service (Tomkins). Lord let me know mine end (Greene). Rev Canon D Painter.

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9 M. The Dean: 10 S Euch. O taste and see (Vaughan Williams). Sumsion in F. Jesu grant me this I pray (Whitlock). The Librarian: 6 E. Responses (Smith). Wood in F. O thou the central orb (Wood). The Curate.

***WELLS CATHEDRAL:** 8 HC: 9.45 S Euch. St* Nicolai Mass (Haydn). O taste and see (Vaughan Williams). *V Rev R Lewis:* 11.30 M. Sumsion in G. Holroyd in D. O Almighty God (Barcrofte): 3 E. Jackson in G. Greater love (Ireland). Rev C Bonneywell.

***WESTMINSTER ABBEY:** 8 HC; 10 M.* Responses (Smith). Te Deum in F (Ireland). The Lord hath been mindful (Wesley). Canon A Harvey: 11.15 Euch. Coronation Mass/Ave verum Corpus (Mozart). Teach me O Lord (Attwood). Rev P Ferguson: 3 E. Blair in B minor. Blessed be the God and Father (Wesley). Rev D Green: 6.30 ES. Canon D Gray.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL: 7. 8. 9. 12. 5.30. 7 M: 10.30 SM. Missa brevis (Berkeley). Tantum ergo sacramentum (Duruflé); 10 MP: 3.30 V&B. Magnificat primi toni (Victoria). Faire is the heaven (Harris). Litanies (Alain).

***WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL:** 10.30 M.* Jubilate in B flat (Stanford). Though I speak with the tongues of men (Bairstow). The Bishop: 11.30 Euch. Mass for eight voices (Rheinberger): 3.30 E. *Stanford in C. The* Twelve (Walton). The Archdeacon. Sonata in D (Howells): 6.30 E. St Swithun's School.

YORK MINSTER: 8. 8.45 HC; 10 S Euch. Messe Solennelle (Langlais). Rev Canon *J Toy:* 11.30 M. Stanford in C. Responses (Tomkins): 4 E. Coll Reg (Howells). Though I speak with the tongues of men (Bairstow). Rev Canon R *Hockley.*

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 8 HC: 11 Choral M. Responses (Byrd). Ireland in F. Ashfield in F. Behold the Tabernacle of God (Harris). Rev R Griffiths: 3.30 EP.

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL Southwark: 8, 10, 6 LM: 11.30 SM. Mass in G (Mozart). Zadok the priest (Handel). O Bone Jesu (Palestrina). Monsignor L White.

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL Edinburgh: 8, 10 HC. Gloria in Excelsis Missa brevis (Mathias). The *Minister:* 11.30 MS. Jubilate deo (Britten). The Minister; 8 ES. Rev S Mitchell.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL London: 8 HC: 9.30 Euch: 11 M. The Short Service (Weelkes). Ubi caritas et amor (Duruflé). Ven G Cassidy: 3.15 E. SS Wesley in E. Greater love (Ireland). Rt Rev *R Chartres.*

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL Dundee: 8. 5.15 LM: 10.20 MP: 11 HM. Mass in G *minor* (Vaughan Williams). Be still my soul (Whitlock). Rev P McGeary: 6 E&B. Stanford in B flat. Exsultate Deo (Alessandro Scarlatti). Dr C Rawll.

***ALL SAINTS**, Margaret Street, W1: 9 C; 11, Rev* S Wookey: 6.30, Rev Dr J Stott.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11. Missa ave maris stella (Vittoria). Alma redemptoris mater (Soriano). Nolo mortem peccatoris (Morley).

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8. 12.15 HC: 10 Children's: 11 M. Jubilate in E flat (Britten). O how glorious is the kingdom (Harwood). Rev P Elvy; 6 E. Rev D Bean.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15; 6.30 Rev S Hood.

FARM STREET, W1: 7.30, 8.30, 10, 12.15, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 HM.

HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, SW7: 9 ASB HC. Rev N Gumbel; 11 Informal, Mr K Costa: 5. 7.30 Informal, Rev S Millar.

***THE ORATORY**.* Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Nelson Mass (Haydn). Jubilate Deo (Gabrieli). 12.30, 4.30, 7 M: 3.30 V & B. Ave Verum (Gounod).

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 9.45 HC: 11 MS, Rev P Hulme.

***WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist)**,* SW1: 11, 6.30, Rev Dr R J Tudor.

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, West Smithfield, EC1: 9 HC: 11 M. Short Service/O Lord in thy wrath (Gibbons). Rev A Winter: 6.30 E. Short Service (Gibbons). In pace *(Blitheman). Rev A Winter.*

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Choral Euch. Britten in C. Vidi speciosam (Victoria). Requests (Anthony Ceasar). Canon J Oates: 6.30 Choral E. Responses (Clucas). Wood in E flat. O for a closer walk with God (Stanford). *Faire is the heaven (Harris). Like as the hart* (Howells). Canon J Oates.

ST CLEMENT DANES: 11 M. Dedication of Rhodesia/Zimbabwe Squadron Badges. Vaughan Williams in G. The Lord is my shepherd (Stanford).

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11, Rev J McIndoe; 6.30, Rev W Cairns.

ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 11 SM. Mass in G (Schubert). Ave Maria (Collins Rice). Fugue *in A minor* (Bach).

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch. Darke in A. O Lord who hast taught us (Darlow). The Rector.

ST JAMES'S, Garlickhythe, EC4: 10.30 S Euch, The Elbon Singers, The Rector

ST JAMES'S, Sussex Gardens, W2: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch. Schubert in F. O death where is thy sting (Handel). Mr D Fisher; 6 Choral E. Fauxbourdons (Byrd). Lord to thee I make my moan (Weelkes).

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8. 10.30 HC. I was glad when they said unto me (Purcell). Rev D Watson: 6.30 E. How lovely are thy dwellings (Brahms). Rev G Beauchamp.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 9.45 C: 11 S Euch & Baptism. Mass for four voices (Byrd). O God my King (Amner). Rev T Devonshire Jones.

ST MARGARET'S CHURCH, Westminster Abbey: 11 S Euch. Missa Brevis in F (Mozart). O salutaris hostia (Howells). The Dean.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC; 9.45 *Euch. St Martin's service (Stringer).* Laudate Dominum (Burgon). Justorum animae (Stanford). Rev J Pridmore; 11.30 Visitors. Responses (Lane). O Thou the central orb (Wood). The Vicar; 2.45 Chinese. Rev H Che; 5 Choral E. Sumsion in A. For lo I raise up (Stanford); 6.30 ES. Grande Choeur in D (Guilmant). Rev J Pridmore.

ST MARY ABBOTS CHURCH, Kensington W8: 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 Euch. The Vicar; 11.15 Choral M. Rev G Gelli; 6.30 Choral E. Rev F Gelli.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 9.45, 7 LM; 11 HM. Missa brevis in C (Mozart). Canon G Reid; 6 E&B.

ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, Primrose Hill: 8 HC; 10.30 Euch. Sumsion in F. Where thou reignest (Schubert). Rev *D Jones;* 6 Searching for Wholeness.

ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC: *11 Choral Euch. Mass in G (Schubert).* Call to remembrance (Hilton). Rev C Owen.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8, 9 HC: 11 S Euch. Mass in G (Schubert). Like as the hart (Howells). Quam pulchri sunt (Palestrina). Rev C Courtauld.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: *8.15 HC; 10* Family Euch; 11 S Euch. Missa Papae Marcelli (Palestrina). Os justi meditabitur sapientiam (Bruckner). Litanies (Alain). Rev D Tillyer.

ST STEPHEN'S, Gloucester Road, SW7: 8, 9 LM; 11 SM. Missa solemnis in b flat minor (Bruckner). Ave maria (Elgar). Tantum ergo (East). Canon C Colven.

CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; 11 M. Responses (Leighton). Second Service (Tomkins). Jubilate (Chant). Diliges Dominum (Byrd). Canon J G Murphy.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC: 11.15 MP. My beloved spake (Hadley). Canon D Palmer.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC; 11 M. Responses (Statham). *Deane in E* flat. He that hath my commandments (Mundy); 3.30 E. I will lift up mine eyes (Walker). Batten in C. Let my complaint (Morley). Plainsong (Tunnard).

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street, W1: 8.15 HC; 11 S Euch. Communion Service in C & F (Stanford). O Lord arise (Weelkes). Here O my Lord (Whitlock). Rev S Hobbs.

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 M. Moeran in E flat. O love how deep (Bush); 12.30 HC. The Chaplain.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8.30, 11.15 HC. Schubert in G. The Creed (Merbecke). The Master.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M. I would be true (Pearmain). Christe Jesu bone pastor (Taverner). *Rev K Joyce;* 12 HC.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 11 S Euch. Hide not thou thy face (Farrant). Expectans expectavi (Wood). Rev C French.

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Rise in the presence of grey hairs, give honour to the aged, and fear your God. I am the Lord.
Leviticus 19 : 32 (REB).

BIRTHS

ANDREYEV - To Catherine (née Harwood) and Jervoise, a son, Joseph Nikolay on 14th February 1995.

BERESFORD - At University College Hospital, London, on February 19th 1995, to Joy and Colin, a son, Gregory Thomas Sutherland. Deo Gratias.

BODDIE - On 16th February 1995 at The Princess Royal Hospital, Haywards Heath, to Louise and Richard, a daughter, Olivia Alice Maria, a sister for Eleanor.

BONE - On 23rd February, to Mary Rose (née Mulliner) and David, a daughter, Victoria Katherine.

BUBBERS - On February 4th 1995, to Sharon (née White) and John, a beautiful daughter, Lucy Francesca, a sister for James.

CLARK - On February 20th, to Helen (née Hole) and Tony, a son, Hugh Alan, a brother for Annabel.

DUNBAR - Parker Berns, at the Wellington Hospital on 22nd February, a son for Thad and Barbara.

HONES - On 11th February 1995, to Noelle and Steve, a beautiful son, Oliver Charles, a brother for Matthew and George.

LOWDERMILK OPPENHEIM - On 21st February at UCH, to Melanee and Jeremy, a precious son, Joshua Matthew.

McKEE - On 17th February, to Claire (née Wilson) and Leslie, of Seacoast Road, Limavady, a very special son, Connor Austin.

McLAUGHLIN - On 18th February 1995 at St Thomas', London, to Sarah (née Landau) and Sean, a son, Patrick John.

MORGAN - On February 20th, to Michelle (née Gooder) and Roland, a son, Giles Patrick.

MOSHFEGHI - On February 23rd at The Portland Hospital, to Haleh and Farzad, a beautiful strong baby boy, Martin. A grandson for Pari and Amin.

NUGENT - On February 22nd, to Louise (née Nixon) and Charles, a son, Hugh Frederick.

OWERS - On February 21st, to Helen (née Browning) and Paul, God's gift of a son, Samuel Joseph.

PARKER - On February 21st at The Portland Hospital, to Perry and Ida, a son, Timothy Beaumont.

SARAKI - On February 19th at The Portland Hospital, to Toyin (née Ojora) and Bukola, a bouncing baby boy, brother to Tosin.

WILLIAMS - On February 21st, to Clare (née Emerson) and David, a son, Hugo Charles Rhys, a brother for Sophie.

MARRIAGES

BENNETT:KÜSTER - Miles Adam Rolfe and Marja in Ribe, Denmark, 17th February.

THE TIMES
NOTICE TO READERS
Our new telephone number for Birth, Marriage and Death announcements is
0171 782 7272 or fax 0171 782 7827

DEATHS

BEST - Sidney James, late of Hazeley Farm, Twyford, Hampshire, on 22nd February 1995, aged 84. Beloved husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral details Linlotts, tel: (01730) 813264.

BLACK - On the 22nd February, 1995, Gilbert, much loved and loving husband of Louise, beloved father of Jennifer, Jonathan and Douglas and darling grandfather of Josephine, Katherine, Joshua and James, died suddenly at his home in East Horsley, Surrey. He will be sorely missed by his family, friends and colleagues to whom he was a tower of strength. Funeral Service to be held at Our Lady of Sorrows Church, Lower Road, Effingham, Surrey on Friday, 3rd March, 1995 at 9.15 am.

CUTBUSH - On 23rd February 1995, peacefully at home, Great Harwood, Lancs., George Jessup Cutbush aged 92 years. The dearly loved husband of Marion and loving father of Clive. Enq: E.T. Birtwistle & Sons, tel: (01254) 877077.

DAVIDSON - Joyce Eleanor of Grafton Manor, Grafton, York, beloved by Peter her husband, by David and Iain her sons and their families, on Thursday 23rd February. Funeral at Christ Church, Marton, on Wednesday March 1st at 12 noon. Donations to Marton School.

EDWARDS - Hilary Anne of Parkstone, Dorset, on 20th February, aged 72, at her son's home in New Malden, Surrey. Held in love and affection by her son Simon and daughter Amanda and will be much missed by them and their families. Funeral to be at noon on Wednesday 1st March St James's Church, Bodley Road, New Malden. Flowers to 96 Westbury Road, New Malden, Surrey KT3 5AN (081) 949-2712 or donations to UNA Trust or Arthritis Care.

GALLAGHER - John Edward, peacefully in hospital on 22nd February after a long illness borne with his usual aplomb. He was deeply loved and will be sadly missed by all who knew him. Service 2.30 pm Thursday 2nd March Hinde Street Church, London W1. Private cremation. No flowers. Donations on the day for Almroth Wright Ward, St Mary's Hospital.

HARE - Richard George Windham Hare, R.N. O.B.E. (Retired) of Riversleigh Fermoy, Co. Cork. Passed peacefully to rest at Padre Pio Villa Glenabo on February 21st 1995. Much loved father of Vivien, Caroline and Virginia. He has joined his beloved Doreen. Service at 11.30 am on Monday February 27th at Christ Church, Ballyhooly, followed by burial. No flowers.

JACKSON - On 23rd February peacefully, Sandy, loved by family and friends. Funeral Service on Wednesday March 1st 12.30pm at Guildford Crematorium. Family flowers only but donations if desired to MacMillan Nurses Fund or St Luke's Cancer Appeal c/o G.M. Luff and Partners, 84 Lion Lane, Haslemere, Surrey GU27 1JH, tel: (01428) 643824.

KAMM - On 23rd February 1995, Edward David CBE, PhD, FRSC, aged 91. Will be sadly missed by son Martin and Stephanie, Rachel, David, family and friends. Funeral private but donations if wished to Notting Hill Housing Trust or Oxfam c/o H.J. Bent & Co., 1C Westminster Court, Aberdeen Place, NW8 8JN.

KUTTNER - Conrad, died on February 22nd. Much loved husband of Dora, father of Jill and Patricia, grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral on March 1st at Surrey and Sussex Crematorium at 1.30 pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to The British Heart Foundation.

MADDOCK - John on February 22nd 1995, beloved husband of Sheila Mary and the late Edith, father of Peter and Bill. Funeral Service on Thursday March 2nd at Chichester Crematorium at 11.30 am. Flowers may be sent to L.F. Linton & Son, North Street, Midhurst, West Sussex, tel: (01730) 813264.

MONTAGUE-EVANS - On February 24th, Chris, formerly wife of Peter and mother of Piers and of Patrick Lynch. Private cremation.

OGILVY - On February 23rd peacefully after a long illness courageously borne, Alastair, dearly loved husband of Barbara, father of Anne and Susan, Grandpa of Amanda, James, Louise, Calum, Angus and Catriona and great-grandfather of Oliver. Private cremation. A Thanksgiving Service will be held at St Peter's Church, Walton-on-the-Hill, on Friday March 10th at 2.30pm. If desired, donations may be made to King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst, West Sussex GU29 0BL.

RAYMENT - Bryan Antony, most dearly loved husband of Claire, in Johannesburg, on February 22nd.

RAYMOND - Peacefully on 23rd February 1995, Dennis aged 76 years, of St James Park, Bradpole, Dorset. Funeral Service on Thursday 2nd March 1995. No flowers by request. Enquiries A.G. Down Funeral Directors, 66 South Street, Bridport, Dorset, tel: (01308) 422643.

ROBERTS - On 24th February 1995, Elsie Annie Pearl (née Reed) of Minehead, formerly of Amersham, aged 81. Dear wife of the late Frank Roberts (Home News Editor at The Times). Dearly loved and sadly missed by her family and friends. Funeral enquiries Murrell & Dewar, (01643) 702096.

SMITH - Peacefully at home on Thursday 23rd February 1995, after a short illness borne with great courage, Andrew (Drew) J. Smith, aged 44 years. Much loved husband of Ursula, 3 Tolmount Crescent, Montrose. The best dad in the world to Susan. Funeral Service Emslie S. Collier's Chapel of Rest, Broomfield Road, Montrose, on Monday 27th February at 1 pm. Interment thereafter at Sleepyhillock Cemetery Extension. All friends respectfully invited.

WELD-FORESTER - Peacefully at Chard Hospital on February 23rd, John Orlando, dearly loved and loving husband, father and grandfather. Funeral at Wambrook Church at 2.30pm on March 2nd. Enquiries to H. Bishop & Sons, Chard (01460) 63284.

WHITTINGTON - On 22nd February 1995 died peacefully at home after a long illness, Joseph Basil OBE, late of the Diplomatic Service, aged 73 years. Much loved father of David, Bob and Chrissie and grandfather. Service to be held at Haycombe Crematorium, Bath, on Wednesday 1st March 11 am. *Donations instead of* flowers, if wished, to Dorothy House Foundation, Winsley House, Winsley, Bradford on Avon.

WOOD - Geoff, born Liverpool 28th August 1931, chemical engineer, respected commissioner of chemical installations in India, Eastern Europe, Cuba, Iran, Libya and Malaysia, beloved husband to Joan and father to Janet, Alison and Simon, died in hospital in Kuala Lumpur, on 10th January 1995. Greatly missed by those who feel their learning is at an end.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

WAIN - A Memorial Service will be held for John Wain, poet, author, playwright and critic, at the University Church of St Mary, Oxford on Saturday March 11th at 2.30 pm. All welcome.

IN MEMORIAM – WAR

LOMAS - In proud and ever loving memory of my only brother, John Edward Lomas, Flt. Sgt. Pilot R.A.F.V.R. 58 Sqdn. Coastal Command killed in action night of 25th/26th February 1945, aged 22 years, with no known grave. Remembering also the crew who perished with him.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

CASEY - Thomas Aquinas February 25th 1993. R.I.P. Lovingly remembered today and always - with our love and prayers. Maria, Emma, Julian, Katie, Adrian and Alison.

GLANFIELD - Shirley (Heather) 25th February 1992, dearly loved and sadly missed.

ANNIVERSARIES

DEAR Tara Happy 25th Anniversary from your Canadian mother. Please contact me, Ann Carrier, 1057 Roy Street 12, Montreal, 514 843 5248.

RUBY ANNIVERSARIES

RAMKISSUN - Shiv Prasad and Suraj Happy 40th Wedding Anniversary 26th February 1955 at Suva, Fiji Island. With all our love and affection from Stephen, Nancy, Revika, Rod, Anita and Jocelyn.

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTING

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BIRTHDAYS

ANGELO Have a wild and wonderful birthday, with love from La Strega

DAVID Happy Birthday. The pyramid will almost wash away, on the third day the sun arises. The path to the light has this year been rewritten, the soul never dies. lots of love Christina.

ELSA AND DEBRA. Happy birthday to both. Go swimming every sunday. Love Wet.Wet.Wet. H & RL.

SUDDEN Dennis. Congratulations on your 70th Birthday. With love from all your family.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity - James Cranstoun for The Royal Society of Arts
The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at Bristows Cooke & Carpmael, or obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Alban's House, 57/60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX quoting reference MOT/212424A/CD Ldn1. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

GEORGE HENRY JEFFERY DEC'D
Would any Solicitor who has a Will for the above named who died on 31st December 1994, or made a Will for him, please contact PORTER BARTLETT & MAYO, Solicitors. Telephone number: 01258 455166. Ref: MS.

LEGAL NOTICES

In the estate of ALFRED ERNEST PERCY/LAWRENCE deceased
Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 27 of the Trustee Act, 1925, that any person having a claim against or an interest in the estate of ALFRED ERNEST PERCY/LAWRENCE late of GILLINGHAM KENT (ESTATE ABOUT £160,000) who died on the 28th day of NOVEMBER 1988 is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the undersigned the Solicitors for the Executors before the 28th day of APRIL 1995 after which date the Executors will distribute the estate among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interest of which they have had notice and will not as respects the property so distributed, be liable to any person of whose claim or interest they shall not then have notice.
Dated this 23rd day of FEBRUARY 1995
BRACHERS SOLICITORS
SOMERFIELD HOUSE
59 LONDON ROAD
MAIDSTONE
KENT
ME16 8JH

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION BRISTOL DISTRICT REGISTRY
No 2813 of 1994
IN THE MATTER OF JOHN HEWITT GROUP LIMITED
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, Bristol District Registry dated 2nd February 1995 confirming the reduction of the capital of the above Company from £155,600 to £130,176 and the cancellation of the whole of the amount standing to the credit of the Share Premium Account of the above Company and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 17th February 1995
BURGES SALMON
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BS1 4AH
TEL: 0272 276567
FAX: 0272 294705
REF: DJH/RGH

OBITUARIES

DR LI ZHISUI

Dr Li Zhisui, Chairman Mao's doctor for almost 22 years and the author of a bestseller on his patient, died in Chicago on February 13 aged 75. He was born in 1920.



LI ZHISUI's 682-page memoir, *The Private Life of Chairman Mao*, published last year, although immediately denounced in Peking as "a sheer fabrication and a slander", was praised internationally as a unique insider's account of a dictator, easily surpassing similar studies of Hitler and Stalin. Thousands of copies in Chinese have been smuggled into the mainland. Its author described Chairman Mao as a man of revolting personal habits including sexual voracity, minimal loyalty to his oldest comrades, many of whom he purged, and with little regard for his people.

While the book does not give an overall political account of its subject's years with Mao — Li refrains from describing events of which he had no first-hand knowledge — it provides important insights into the workings of the court surrounding Mao Tse-tung. The most striking of its disclosures is probably how rarely Mao saw his closest colleagues. Even old comrades from the Long March, such as Chou En-lai, might see him just once or twice a month. The Chairman communicated by note, which he signed with a red circle.

These close colleagues rarely disagreed with Mao and Li portrays most of them, including Premier Chou, as grovelling. Those who dared confront him, such as Marshal Peng Duhai, who warned Mao that his policies were causing widespread famine, were abruptly purged, regardless of their long revolutionary connections with the Chairman.

According to Li, Mao spent most of his time either on a large bed, where he kept a collection of traditional histories and entertained his many mistresses, most of whom were peasant girls selected for their beauty and pliability, or near his specially built swimming pool. He never washed or brushed his teeth, and despite Li's efforts, transmitted venereal infections to his women.

When he was 34, Li was engaged by Mao as his personal doctor. A descendant of five generations of traditional physicians, two of whom had worked at the imperial court, he had been trained in an American-style medical school in Chengdu. After working as a ship's doctor based in Australia, he was persuaded to return to China in 1949 to help to build the new society.

Before long he found himself working in a secret hospital for top leaders and in 1954 he was appointed Mao's personal physician and English teacher. Although married and with two sons, for 22 years he had virtually no family life and lived in a small room near Mao's quarters, where he was on call 24 hours a day. The Chairman slept little and counted on Li for late-night chats. As a result, the doctor had an unrivalled experience of Mao's inner thoughts and working style.

Because of his "feudal" background Li's 22 years with the Chairman were anxious ones from the very start to the last moment, when he held the dying Mao's hand. Asked how he had managed to survive the relationship, Li explained: "Mao once told me that you can play with a dragon, but you have to be very careful not to touch a single spot on the dragon's neck where it is very sensitive. If you touch it, you're done for. He told me he was that sort of dragon . . . If you worked for Mao you had to disobey your own conscience."

So widespread was this fear, according to Li, that in the late 1950s when Chairman Mao laid down agricultural practices that led to the death from starvation of many millions, entire rice paddies were moved from one part of the country to another so that the Chairman could see them on his travels and believe his policies were a success. Those who ventured to tell Mao the truth usually were dispatched to unpleasant other duties or, if they were from the inner political circle, could be imprisoned and sometimes killed. The Chairman held grudges for years and the punishment could be delayed for a decade.

From 1955 Li kept a diary describing his trips with Chairman Mao throughout China, swimming with him in the Yangtse River, caring for his wife Jiang Qing and his numerous mistresses, and observing his audiences with world leaders including the one in 1972 with President Nixon. It was during this encounter that Dr Li sat near by with resuscitation equipment — presented by Henry Kissinger — in case his patient suddenly collapsed.

He burnt 40 of his diaries in 1966 at the beginning of the Cultural Revolution but in 1977, a year after Chairman Mao's death, began reconstructing them. In 1988, when Lillian, Li's wife, became ill, they were permitted to travel to the United States for medical treatment. She died and, living in Chicago with one of his sons, Li began his memoir. "I wrote this book in great sorrow for Lillian," he wrote, "and for everyone who cherishes freedom. I want it to serve as a reminder of the terrible consequences of Mao's dictatorship and of how good people living under his regime were forced to violate their consciences and sacrifice their ideals in order to survive."

He leaves two sons who live in the United States.

EDINA LADY STRICKLAND-CONSTABLE

Edina Lady Strickland-Constable, conservationist, died on February 15 aged 89. She was born on September 27, 1905.



EDINA STRICKLAND-CONSTABLE was the custodian of one of the loveliest stretches of coastal wilderness in Britain, Hornsea Mere on the Yorkshire coast, home to many rare species of wildfowl. She was the widow of Sir Marmaduke Strickland-Constable, the 10th Baronet, whose family had lived at the nearby Wassand Hall since 1530. The mere had been purchased from the Countess of Warwick thirty years later, in 1560, for the sum of £50.

At 360 acres, Hornsea Mere was the largest lake in Yorkshire and exceptionally peaceful. Edina tried to keep it an uncommercial spot. No motor boats were allowed there, only rowing-boats and yachts, and serious ornithologists were encouraged rather than coach parties of day-trippers. Not just the lake, but Wassand Hall's substantial parkland provided a refuge for all sorts of animals, including foxes and deer. Shooting and hunting in all forms were banned on the estate.

Edina Strickland-Constable felt something of an outsider when she came to England as a young bride, and she remained shy with strangers. This did not prevent her, however, from fulfilling what she considered to be her public duties. She never missed the music or arts festivals at Hornsea, and she regularly opened the annual flower show at Seaton and distributed the prizes. Nature conservation, however, remained her primary interest.

Ernestine Edina was the youngest daughter of the Count Rudolph von Rex, and was descended from old Saxon and Bavarian families. Her childhood was spent in Vienna where her father was the Minister for Saxony at the Imperial Court. He died during the First World War, after which her mother took over the administration of the Royal Palace of Dresden. Edina grew up there, educated by an English nanny and governess, and always said that she learnt English before she learnt German. It was impossible to detect that English was not her first language.

She spent her early adulthood in Munich. She was a vivacious young woman, and enjoyed balls and dancing, trips to the opera, and holidays to Rome where her elder sister lived with her husband, an English diplomat. She first met her own husband, Henry Marmaduke Strickland-Constable — a pianist, composer and friend of Sir Adrian Boult — in Munich in 1928, and they married the following year.

Soon afterwards he brought his bride back to the family home of Wassand Hall, a late Georgian building with substantial state rooms. She painted and entertained there a good deal in her youth, but wildlife quickly became her overriding passion. Her husband succeeded to the baronetcy in 1938.

He died in 1975 and Edina remained at Wassand Hall through her long widowhood, cared for by a housekeeper and butler, and kept company by a succession of dogs to which she liked to feed pheasant and venison. She never fully recovered her mobility after breaking a hip twenty years ago. With no children, her husband was succeeded in the baronetcy by his brother, Sir Robert Strickland-Constable.

ROBERT ROBSON

Robert Robson, Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, 1956-95, died in Cambridge on January 16 aged 65. He was born in Haltwhistle, Northumberland, on August 11, 1929.



FOR nearly forty years Bob Robson was the epitome of Trinity. But his friendships extended well beyond the courts of the college. To many outside Cambridge as well as within it he embodied the old-fashioned virtues of loyalty, modesty and stability. If some claimed to recognise in him the original "young fogey", it was a judgment always made with affection.

Born of a small, closely-knit working class family in Northumberland (his father was a miner turned small farmer), Robert Robson was educated at the Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Hexham. He found himself one of only two boys in the sixth form. The highly personal schooling he received there was well suited to his reserved temperament.

In 1950, after National Service in the RAF, he went up to Trinity on a state scholarship. He obtained a double first in history, and went on to research for a PhD. After teaching at Glasgow University for a year, he returned to Trinity in 1957 to take up a fellowship.

Even then he liked to boast of being the only octogenarian Fellow aged 28. He cultivated the posture of an aged misanthrope to perfection. Like his courtesy and his dry sense of humour, it was part and parcel of a sophisticated defence mechanism designed to protect from exposure a sensitive, warm-hearted but essentially shy grammar school boy from the North. His publication, *The Attorney in 18th Century England* (1959), a study of the emergence of the legal profession, was in some sense symbolic: Robson was an 18th-century figure marooned in the wrong century.

His happiest days were as an old-style tutor when, in the company of congenial colleagues, he discovered the perfect outlet for his own distinctive brand of unobtrusive pastoral care. In the annals of the college he will go down as one of the great tutors. He lamented the erosion of the pastoral content of the job by the relentless tide of administration that has engulfed every facet of university life in recent years. It was one of the reasons why he was such a tireless supporter of the college chaplains, recognising in their ministry to a wide cross-section of the college community a model to be emulated. His own quiet unassuming manner made him the trusted confidant of many, and not just his pupils. He became a lay confessor of the utmost integrity — not that his Methodist upbringing would ever have approved such a papistical designation.

Academic competitiveness was alien to him. Like the bishops in the House of Lords, in college politics he always sat on the government benches, even when the policy under debate went against the grain. Conservative and cautious by nature, he resisted change that was for change's sake. To some his views were a recipe for inertia; but to the more discerning his voice spoke with a prudent moderation that was authoritative. He never claimed for any of his views an infallibility, only good taste erected into polity. He loved to rehearse the incident when Lord Adrian, as Master, thumped the table during a meeting of the College Council, and shouted: "Is this a college or a bloody institution?" It was also the cry of Bob's heart.

The renovation of the college buildings, and particularly of the Wren Library, excited his imagination but the gardens of the college were his first love. He had looked forward to retirement from the age of 20, and the leisure it would afford him to stroll in the grounds or to walk the hills of his native Northumberland.

Sadly, when retirement did come it was blighted by illness and increasing infirmity. In 1985 he was diagnosed as having lymphoma. He fought the disease with a determination that surprised even his friends. In September of last year he inquired of his consultant whether it would be worth his while to invest in a new raincoat. His question was an Anglicised version of the celebrated phrase of Dorothy Parker: "Tell it to me slant." Sadly, the advice he was given proved mistaken.

He is survived by a sister and a brother.

CANON ANDREW HUNT

Canon Andrew Hunt, former missionary teacher in Africa, died on January 7 aged 80. He was born on May 4, 1914.



ANDREW HUNT was an Anglican priest who made an outstanding contribution to African education in Zimbabwe during a period of rapid and demanding political change.

He was born in Oxford, his father being HMI of schools in the county. After prep school at the Dragon, Oxford, he won a scholarship to Harrow where he excelled at work and games. Unfortunately, he contacted polio and was obliged to leave early. But he was accepted at Balliol where he narrowly missed a first in Greats and became president of the Balliol Boys' Club.

He had considered ordination for some time. But he decided to test his vocation by going with an Oxford friend for two years to a remote part of Western Canada where he worked for an organisation which looked after the welfare of impoverished settlers in the deserted areas of Saskatchewan. Hunt and his friend lived very rough, sometimes travelling on horseback in deep snow. These experiences were enough to confirm his vocation.

After his period of training at Wescott House, he was ordained at the beginning of the Second World War and served as a curate at Queensbury in north London during the Blitz. Later in the war he met and married his wife Pat, daughter of a clergyman, and became youth chaplain to the Bishop of Leicester. From there he became vicar of the village of Shepshed, near Loughborough.

The attractions of a country parish in England were not strong enough to prevent him from applying for a living in Southern Rhodesia (Zimbabwe) and by the middle of 1953 Hunt and his family were established at Gatooma (Kadoma). But when he came to be transferred to the bigger parish of Hatfield, a suburb of Salisbury (Harare), he discovered that one of the side-effects of Ian Smith's UDI was to cripple church finances and thus, among other things, to impoverish an expatriate priest and his family.

The uncertainties of the time led Hunt to apply for a teaching appointment at a government secondary school. He secured a post quickly and continued, at first, with his incumbency. But he at once realised that teaching African boys was his dominant vocation, and his wife shared equal success with the African girls she taught.

Hunt's principal contribution to African education in Southern Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe) was his headmastership of Bernard Mizeki College in Marandellas from 1966 to 1975. The college had been founded by a group of leading people in the country as a boarding high school for African boys. The same people founded Peterhouse, BMC's white equivalent.

Hunt found the college in a low state and much in need of reform. The number of pupils was fewer than 200. The fees were too high and the academic standards were low. With the agreement of the parents and the boys, Hunt reduced the fees and thus increased the number of pupils. He began sixth-form teaching so that further education became available.

He also instituted games at the school, cricket, swimming, hockey and athletics to supplement soccer. Drama and music were introduced, too. Meanwhile the need for balancing the Shona and Matabele elements in the school were respected. When Hunt retired in 1975, the number of pupils had risen to 320.

On retirement to Mutare, Hunt went on teaching full time in other African schools. He finally left Zimbabwe first for St Albans and then for Oxford in 1985, having been made a canon by the Bishop of Mutare.

He is survived by his wife, three sons and a daughter.

PERSONAL COLUMN

COMPANY NO: 1701807
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
WEIR HOUSE TROUT FARMS LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at The Bath, Missenden Abbey Management Centre, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire HP16 0BD on 10th March 1995 at 11am, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the said Act.
A list of the names and addresses of the Company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at 21 Chipper Lane, Salisbury, Wilts between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the meeting.
Creditors wishing to vote at the Meeting must lodge a full statement of account and (unless attending in person) a proxy in the form attached at 21 Chipper Lane, Salisbury, Wilts no later than 12 noon on 9th March 1995. Secured creditors must, unless they surrender their security, give particulars of their security and its assessed value if they wish to vote at the Meeting.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
Signed Director Secretary
21/2/95

No. 00681 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF EXCALIBUR GROUP PLC
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 1st day of February 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the Share Premium Account of the above-named Company as at the 8th September 1994 by the sum of £7,629,000.
AND NOTICE BE FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard by Mr Registrar Buckley at the Companies Court, Thomas More Building, Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LL on the 8th day of March 1995.
ANY creditor or shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of Share Premium Account should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose. A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
Dated this 25th day of February 1995
This Summons was taken out by Alan Wilkinson of 11 St James's Square, Manchester M2 6DR. Ref: AH/JM/G4078.476. Solicitors for the above-named Company

TRUSTEE ACTS

NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

HOWE, GLADYS MAY, Woodbine Cottage, 10 Hockeys Lane, Pishponds, Bristol, died 28th December 1992: particulars to Jeary & Lewis, Solicitors, 46 Market Place, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 3HU, before 30th April 1996.

LAVELLE, DORIS VICTORIA also known as DORIS VICTORIA PURRIER of 69 QUICKSWOOD, KING HENRY'S ROAD, LONDON NW3 died on 23RD JANUARY 1995 particulars to TRINGHAMS Solicitors of 26 DORSET STREET, LONDON W1M 3FU before 26TH APRIL 1996

LORD, JAMES of 1 BROADLAWN COURT, COLLEGE HILL ROAD, HARROW WEALD, MIDDLESEX died on 21ST NOVEMBER 1994 particulars to TRINGHAMS Solicitors of 26 DORSET STREET, LONDON W1M 3FU before 26th APRIL 1995.

WILKINS, JAMES MICHAEL of FLAT 1A, KINGSBURY STREET, MARLBOROUGH, WILTS died on 21ST JANUARY 1994 particulars to INGLEDEW BROWN BENNISON & GARRETT Solicitors of 62-64 FENCHURCH STREET, LONDON EC3M 4BY before 26TH APRIL 1995

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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ARMY SEIZES POWER IN GHANA

LAGOS, NIGERIA, FEB. 24

The Ghana Army seized power in Accra today and declared that "the myth surrounding Kwame Nkrumah has been broken". While the *coup* was being launched, the 56-year-old Ghanaian president was flying from Rangoon to Peking. Reports from Accra, received through diplomatic channels, said troops and police had surrounded the airport, the radio station and key buildings in the town. Sporadic shooting was heard early this morning around Flagstaff House, Dr. Nkrumah's triple-walled, heavily guarded residence. At 10 a.m. Radio Ghana broadcast an ultimatum giving the "security forces" inside the residence until 11.30 a.m. to surrender. Twenty tanks manned by the rebels were ranged outside the building. Several vehicles were burnt. Loyalist Army and security troops were reported to be blockaded inside Flagstaff House. Several thousand jubilant Ghanaians surged outside Usher Fort prison after the radio announced that all political prisoners would be released "in due course". Accra itself was calm, although few shops remained open. Shots were reported heard near the residence of Mr. Kofi Baako, the Minister for Defence, and there was said to have been a grenade attack on the home of Lieutenant-Colonel David C. Zanlerigu, commander of Dr. Nkrumah's Russian-equipped presidential guard. Leading the *coup* was Colonel E. K. Kotoka, aged 40, commander of the 2nd Brigade, which had recently been ordered from its base in Kumasi for manoeuvres around Accra. Listeners to Radio Ghana heard Colonel Kotoka declare in a firm voice:—"Fellow citizens, I have come to inform you that the military, with the co-operation of the police, have taken over the Government." He went on to declare the dismissal of Dr. Nkrumah and his Ministers, the suspension of the Constitution and Parliament, and the abolition of the Convention People's Party—the sole political movement under Dr. Nkrumah's dictatorial regime. Subsequent broadcasts proclaimed the setting up of a "liberation committee" to run the Government. A broadcast said all leading officials of the C.C.P. had been rounded up. The radio appealed to Ghanaians to help the police in the arrest of all party chairmen and local secretaries. Fifty-six political detainees have been released by the newly formed Ghanaian National Liberation Committee, Radio Accra said tonight. An army broadcast said concentration of power in the hands of one man had led to political abuses. It strongly criticised what it called capricious handling of the country's economic affairs by Dr. Nkrumah which, it said, had brought Ghana to the point of economic collapse.—*Reuter.*

PEKING, Feb. 24.—Dr. Nkrumah looked tense and grim when he attended a state banquet here tonight, but spoke as if nothing had happened. His Chinese hosts did not mention today's *coup* either—but the atmosphere at the banquet was strained and quiet.

ON THIS DAY
February 25 1966

The colonies of Gold Coast and Togoland combined to become the independent state of Ghana in 1960. Dr Nkrumah was the country's first President. He was criticised for "ruling the country as if it were his own personal property".

NEWS

Bold plan for building societies

■ The Government opened a new era of investor democracy when it unveiled proposals to force building societies to become accountable to their millions of savers and borrowers.

In future, building societies will be allowed to offer a wide range of new financial services, including owning their own household insurance companies and lending to small businesses, but only if their members approve..... **Pages 1, 29, 31**

Major tells party to get off its knees

■ John Major demanded that the Tory party "get up off its knees" as he called for loyalty from every Conservative MP in next week's critical Commons vote on Europe. The Prime Minister opened his offensive to avoid a major defeat..... **Page 1**

Pasqua's charge

Charles Pasqua, the French Interior Minister, has accused the Clinton Administration of leaking details of the spying affair to the press ..... **Pages 1, 13**

'Stage fright'

Stephen Fry, the actor who has not been seen since Sunday, yesterday faxed his agent to blame stage fright for his "absurd behaviour" in leaving Simon Gray's West End play *Cell Mates*..... **Pages 1, 2, 18**

Nightmare dinner

Our introduction to the men of the Spetsnaz rapid reaction force was terrifying. We were at dinner in a Chechen household when we looked up to see a masked figure with a machinegun in the doorway..... **Page 1**

GP's addiciton

A GP addicted to alcohol and tranquillisers battered his student daughter to death before booby trapping his house and fleeing to France, a court was told..... **Page 3**

Unusual bond

Two soccer supporters woke up in hospital after heart transplants to find that they had more in common than a love of football: the same heart had beaten in both their chests..... **Page 6**

Crossing swords

A debate between experts in war studies and archery on how a 25,000-strong French army was routed by an English force less than a quarter its size at Agincourt promises to be heated..... **Page 9**

Thumbs-up gunmen

Loyalist gunmen gave the thumbs-up as the Belfast Crown Court jailed four Ulster Freedom fighters for the Hallowe'en night pub massacre in 1993..... **Page 10**

Tribute to king

Spaniards, fed up with the scandal-stricken government of Felipe González, want King Juan Carlos to nudge the Prime Minister towards the electoral door. **Page 14**

Model Campbell is back in vogue

■ Naomi Campbell has just climbed back into bed with New York's Elite modelling agency that kicked her out just over a year ago. John Casablancas, who swore that he wouldn't re-hire, said: "My professional instincts took over my pride."..... **Page 7**

BOB COLLIER



The Prince of Wales jokes with a pupil during a visit to Styal county primary school in Cheshire yesterday

OPINION

Salamat's safety: Britain should offer immediate asylum to Salamat and Rehmat Masih, as well as to their families..... **Page 19**

Birth of a nation: To recall the glory of Agincourt is to realise how long these islands have sought to be distinctive and how deep the roots of nationhood are..... **Page 19**

King of the daffodils: Daffodils are living heritage as well as the punctual announcers of Spring ..... **Page 19**

LETTERS

The cloak-and-dagger world of spies and their influence, as seen by Lord Mayhew, Brian Crozier, Oleg Gordievsky and George Walden; hymns..... **Page 19**

COLUMNS

Bernard Levin: I wonder if Stephen Fry's performance had been hailed as the greatest since Henry Irving, whether he would have been signing autographs till dawn..... **Page 18**

Simon Jenkins: I have always believed that the sooner the world speaks English, the happier and prosperous it will be..... **Page 18**

THE PAPERS

If economic spying is needed — and it is — a bit more subtlety surely is in order

— Los Angeles Times

Through his disclosures that he is homosexual and that he has Aids Greg Louganis has performed heroic public services — *Los Angeles Times*

BUSINESS

Power threat: ICI threatened to push for a Monopolies and Mergers Commission inquiry into the electricity supply industry. It says that privatisation is costing consumers £1.5 billion a year..... **Page 23**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index fell 11.6 points to close at 3037.7. Sterling fell from $1.5920 to $1.5805..... **Page 26**

PEPS

A special 20-page guide on personal equity plans

OBITUARIES

Dr Li Zhisui, Chairman Mao's doctor; **Edina Lady Strickland-Constable**, conservationist; **Robert Robson**, Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge..... **Page 21**

SPORT

Football: Eric Cantona was suspended from football and fined £10,000 for bringing the game into disrepute..**Page 44**

Cricket: Two Pakistan players retired — Rashid Latif, vice-captain and first-choice wicketkeeper, and batsman Basit Ali..... **Page 44**

Boxing: Nigel Benn defends his WBC super-middleweight title against Gerald McClellan ..... **Pages 42, 44**

Rugby Union: Exeter and Wakefield take part in the Pilkington Cup quarter-finals with long-term hopes of higher status..... **Page 41**

CAR 95

A 12-page section on motoring

SATURDAY TIMES MAGAZINE



Vanessa-Mae Nicholson: She may be beautiful, but can she play? Joanna Pitman finds out..... **Page 8**

Urban threat: David Edelsten argues that the countryside is best left to the countryfolk, who know how to keep it pristine..... **Page 16**

John Lee Hooker: "There is much more to this man than longevity." Alan Franks meets the veteran blues singer..... **Page 2**

House style: Lisa Lovatt-Smith views the flat of the creative director of Chanel, Gilles Dufour..... **Page 40**

Retro techno chic: Rubber, PVC and nylon..... **Page 38**

Food: Jonathan Meades on a Marco Pierre White protégé; Frances Bissell on pancakes..... **Pages 9, 11**

WEEKEND



Vision in yellow: The man with 100,000 daffodils in his garden..... **Pages 1 and 3**

Arts: Would you pay £1,000 to appear as an extra in a film with Oliver Reed? Richard Morrison finds the offer curiously tempting..... **Page 5**

New on video: Kirk Douglas grimaces and Laurence Olivier limbers up in Stanley Kubrick's classic *Spartacus*; Werner Herzog weaves his magic in *The Enigma of Kaspar Hauser*..... **Page**

Gardening: Flowering shrubs for spring..... **Page**

Travel: Libby Purves in the Virgin Islands; John Young turns 60 on the ski slope..... **Pages 10-11**

VISION



Rio brio: *Omnibus* investigates the biggest carnival in the world..... **Page 3**

X-Files: The cult series's creator on the art of being smart and scary..... **Page 5**

Ruling passions: Sex, race and the Empire..... **Page 6**

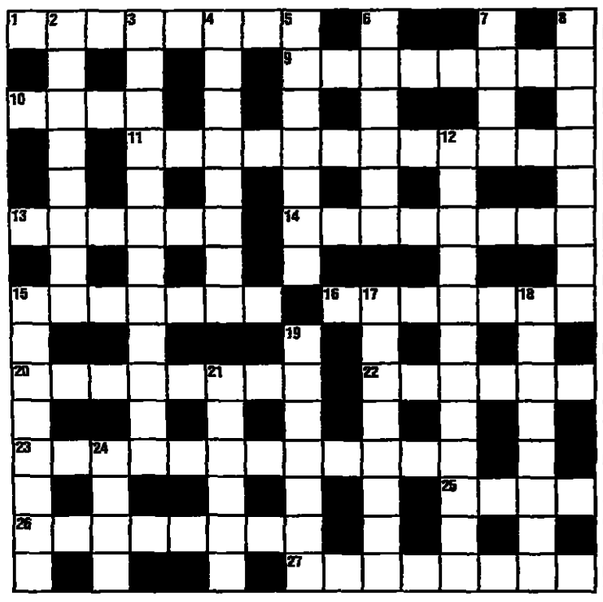
THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,788

KNOCKANDO

A bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky uniquely bottled only when at its peak of perfection rather than at a pre-determined age, together with a fine leather credit card wallet, will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address .....

.....



ACROSS

1 Putting right soldiers in the middle (8).
9 False teeth are easily obtainable (2,1,5).
10 Style of singing primarily suited to a jazz fan (4).
11 Draught beer is no longer in danger (3,2,3,4).
13 Part bearing a flower (6).
14 Someone unoriginally called me a sneak — *it's not right* (8).
15 Children dread being caught in tangle (7).
16 Keeping up with Jack, *run* towards the sunrise (7).
20 Find out about unusual sort of radiation (8).
22 High-ranking Spanish gentleman to whom I was introduced (6).
23 Ponce the French clapped into irons, a reaction to horror (5-7).
25 For the Speaker, single accommodation (4).
26 A bus to mooch around? That takes the biscuit (8).
27 Receipts set to rise at the bar (4,4)

DOWN

2 An apology for a dance (6-2)
3 Withdraw arms after English agreed (3,4,5).
4 Ancients devised this precedent (8).
5 Fish booby's caught, taking it easy (7).
6 Can cough wreak havoc? (6).
7 Service brought about love game (4).
8 A tie? Exactly, a tie (4-4)
12 Wrongly inserts 'Lewes' in place of 'Lewis' (7,5).
15 Scam necessitates duplicate card being hidden (4,4).
17 Scholar is clad in fine fabric, a fabulous creature (8).
18 Seen in discos now — ballroom *dancing* (8).
19 Lead a man to ignore the stars that are around and immovable (7).
21 Predatory bird, a sort of parrot (6).
24 Formerly, 1/100 (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 19,782

H	O	M	E	S	P	U	N		O	S	T	L	E	R
E		A		E		N		A		K		E		E
S	E	N	J	A	M	I	N	B	R	I	T	T	E	N
R		N		S		T		O		L		O		D
E	R	E	M	I	T	E		V	A	L	E	N	C	E
W		R		C				E		E			R	
	P	I	C	K	M	E	U	P		T	A	S	T	E
U		S			O		A				A		D	
N	O	M	A	D		U	P	R	I	S	I	N	G	
C			E		A			P		D		C		
H	A	L	F	W	I	T		C	H	E	L	S	E	A
A		E		D		I		A		N		T		S
S	U	P	E	R	C	O	N	D	U	C	T	O	R	S
T		E		O		N		G		E		N		I
E	U	R	O	P	E		H	E	I	R	L	E	S	S

Solution to Puzzle No 19,787

O	P	S	I	M	A	T	H		D	E	S	I	G	N
E		T		O		A			A		E		L	
D	E	A	D	R	I	N	G	E	R		A	M	O	S
I		L		D		N			T		B		R	
P	R	I	V	A	T	E	C	O	M	P	A	N	Y	
U		N		N		R		O		S		B		
S	A	I	N	T	L	Y		M	U	N	S	T	E	R
		S		I		T			A					
R	U	M	B	A	B	A		W	H	A	T	N	O	T
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		T		R		N		A		D		S		I
M	Y	R	T	L	E		E	U	R	O	P	E	A	N

LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: *D Donovan, Bexleyheath, Kent; D Park, Harefield, Middlesex; S R Delahunty, Eton Wick, Berkshire; T Pike, Beckenham, Kent; R M Janman, Gravesend, Kent.*

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Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Hereds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
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East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
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HOURS OF DARKNESS

TODAY	
Sun rises: 6.56 am	Sun sets: 5.33 pm
Moon sets 1.11 pm	Moon rises 4.08 am

New Moon March 1

London 5.33 pm to 6.53 am
Bristol 5.43 pm to 7.03 am
Edinburgh 5.38 pm to 7.13 am
Manchester 5.36 pm to 7.05 am
Penzance 5.57 pm to 7.13 am

TOMORROW	
Sun rises: 6.53 am	Sun sets: 5.35 pm
Moon sets 2.24 pm	Moon rises 4.50 am

New Moon March 1

London 5.35 pm to 6.51 am
Bristol 5.45 pm to 7.01 am
Edinburgh 5.40 pm to 7.11 am
Manchester 5.40 pm to 7.03 am
Penzance 5.58 pm to 7.11 am

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	9.43	5.83	10:23	5.98
Aberdeen	9:36	3.67	10:25	3.76
Avonmouth	2:47	10.37	3.33	10.60
Belfast	7:14	3.07	7:53	3.14
Cardiff	2:54	9.54	3:32	9.82
Devonport	1:23	4.51	2:12	4.46
Dover	7:08	5.57	7:50	5 64
Dublin	7:52	3.72	8:36	3.77
Falmouth	1:00	4.30	1:44	4.35
Glasgow	8:47	4.03	9:09	4.13
Harwich	7:38	3.37	8:16	3.30
Holyhead	8:30	4.69	7:21	4.69
Hull	2:11	6.29	2:44	6.26
Ilfracombe	1:49	7.44	2:31	7.54
King's Lynn	2:14	5.56	2:47	5.75
Leith	10:33	4.63	11:20	4.74
Liverpool	7:17	8.02	8:01	7.93
Lowestoft	5:35	2.13	5:58	2.12
Margate	7:59	3.99	8.39	4.00
Milford Haven	2:09	5.48	2:56	5.54
Newquay	1.12	5.57	1:54	5.70
Oban	2:24	3.14	3.14	3.05
Penzance	0:38	4.45	1:23	4 40
Portland	1:55	1.48	2:49	1.39
Portsmouth	7:16	4.04	8:11	4.11
Shoreham	7:23	5.01	8:10	5.12
Southampton	6:50	3.92	7:41	3.91
Swansea	2:09	7.65	2:50	7.75
Tees	12:00	4.35	--	--
Wilton-on-Nze	7:50	3.57	8:25	3.58

Crown copyright reserved. All tide times are GMT

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Thursday: Highest day temp: St Mary's, Isles of Scilly, 11C (52F); lowest day max: Spadeadam, Cumbria, 4C (39F); highest rainfall: Guernsey airport, 0.59in; highest sunshine: Leuchars, Fife, 8.6hr.

FORECAST

☐ **General:** Southern parts of England, along with Wales, will be rather cloudy, with only a few brighter or clearer interludes. Outbreaks of rain later, spreading to the Midlands and East Anglia, with a touch of sleet or wet snow over the Welsh mountains and the higher parts of the Pennines. Clearer, but still showery weather will follow later in the day, but the southeast will remain mainly wet into the evening.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will have clear or sunny spells and showers. Northern and western counties will have frequent, sometimes heavy showers, some with hail and perhaps thunder. Further snowfall over the hills.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia:** Cloudy, outbreaks of rain, drier later in the evening. Wind light westerly, becoming moderate northwesterly. Max 7C (45F).

☐ **Cent S, SW England, W Midlands, Channel Isles, S Wales:** Cloudy, outbreaks of rain, clearer in the afternoon. Winds northwesterly moderate to fresh. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **E Midlands, N Wales, NW, Cent N England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland:** Broken cloud with showers, sleet or snow on higher ground. Winds northwesterly moderate to fresh. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **E England, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth:** Broken cloud with showers. Wind northwesterly moderate. Max 6C (43F).

☐ **Cent Highlands, NE, NW Scotland, Argyll, Orkney, Shetland:** Showers, some heavy with hail and possibly thunder. Snow over the hills. Wind northwesterly strong. Max 5C (41F).

☐ **Outlook:** Bright or clear, with showers, then dry for a time before rain spreads from the west.

AROUND BRITAIN

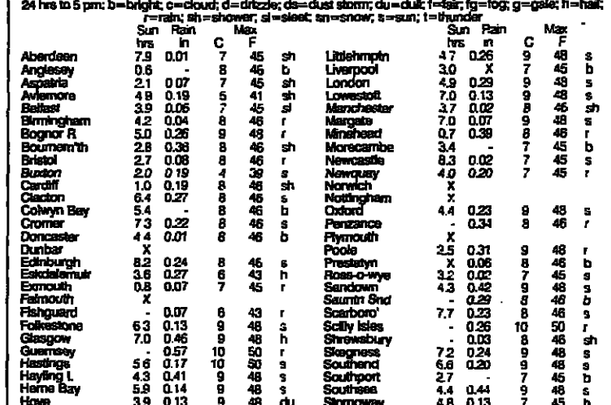
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	C	Max F	
Aberdeen	7.9	0.01	7	45	sh	Llandrindod	4.7	0.26	9	48	s
Anglesey	0.6	-	8	46	b	Liverpool	3.0	X	7	45	b
Aspatria	2.1	0.07	7	45	sh	London	4.9	0.29	9	48	s
Aviemore	4.9	0.19	5	41	sh	Lowestoft	7.0	0.13	9	48	s
Belfast	3.9	0.06	7	45	sl	Manchester	3.7	0.02	8	46	sh
Birmingham	4.2	0.04	8	46	r	Margate	7.0	0.07	9	48	s
Bognor R	5.0	0.26	9	48	r	Minehead	0.7	0.39	8	46	r
Bournem'th	2.8	0.38	8	46	sh	Morecambe	3.4	-	7	45	b
Bristol	2.7	0.08	8	46	r	Newcastle	8.3	0.02	7	45	s
Buxton	2.0	0.19	4	39	s	Newquay	4.0	0.20	7	45	r
Cardiff	1.0	0.19	8	46	sh	Norwich	X				
Clacton	6.4	0.27	8	46	s	Nottingham	X				
Colwyn Bay	5.4	-	8	46	b	Oxford	4.4	0.23	9	48	s
Cromer	7.3	0.22	8	46	s	Penzance	-	0.34	8	46	r
Doncaster	4.4	0.01	8	46	b	Plymouth	X				
Dunbar	X					Poole	2.5	0.31	9	48	r
Edinburgh	8.2	0.24	8	46	s	Prestatyn	X	0.06	8	46	b
Eskdalemuir	3.6	0.27	6	43	h	Ross-o-wye	3.2	0.02	7	45	s
Exmouth	0.8	0.07	7	45	r	Sandown	4.3	0.42	9	48	s
Falmouth	X					Saunton Snd	-	0.29	8	46	b
Fishguard	-	0.07	8	43	r	Scarboro'	7.7	0.23	8	46	s
Folkestone	6.3	0.13	9	48	s	Scilly Isles	-	0.26	10	50	r
Glasgow	7.0	0.46	9	48	h	Shrewsbury	-	0.03	8	46	sh
Guernsey	-	0.57	10	50	r	Skegness	7.2	0.24	9	48	s
Hastings	5.6	0.17	10	50	s	Southend	6.6	0.20	9	48	s
Hayling I.	4.3	0.41	9	48	s	Southport	2.7	-	7	45	b
Herne Bay	5.9	0.14	9	48	s	Southsea	4.4	0.44	9	48	s
Hove	3.9	0.13	9	48	du	Stornoway	4.8	0.13	7	45	h
Hunstanton	5.1	-	7	45	s	Swanage	2.3	0.46	8	46	r
Ilfracombe	X					Teignmouth	0.8	0.06	7	45	r
Isle of Man	4.0	-	8	46	b	Tenby	-	0.11	8	46	r
Jersey	0.7	0.54	9	48	h	Tiree	4.8	0.06	8	46	sh
Kinloss	1.1	0.20	6	43	sh	Torquay	0.8	0.12	8	46	b
Leeds	X					Ventnor	3.8	0.54	9	48	sh
Lerwick	3.9	0.08	5	41	sn	Weymouth	0.4	0.32	8	46	r
Leuchars	8.8	0.07	8	46	s	These are Thursday's figures					

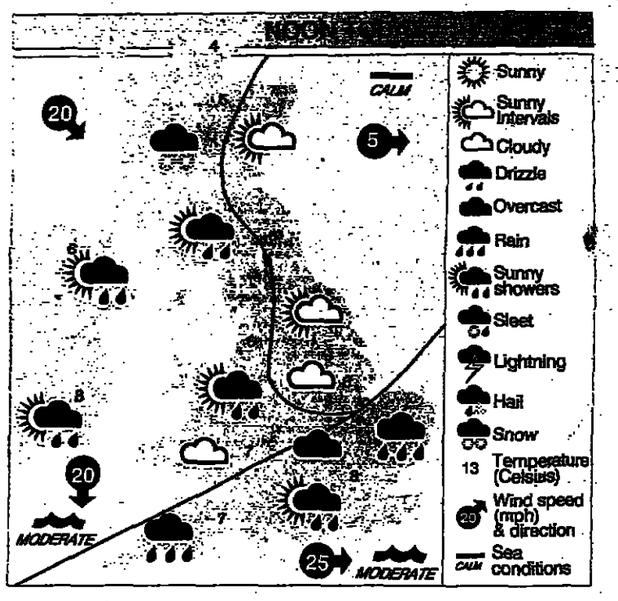
ABROAD

Ajaccio	12	54	c	C'phagn	5	41	f	Madrid	18	61	s
Akrotiri	18	64	s	Corfu	16	61	f	Majorca	17	63	s
Alex'dria	19	66	s	Dublin	6	43	c	Malaga	21	70	s
Algiers	19	66	s	Dubrovnik	13	55	c	Malta	17	63	f
Amst'dm	8	43	c	Faro	19	66	s	Malb'rne	30	86	s
Athens	17	63	s	Florence	10	50	r	Mexico C	18	64	f
Bahrain	19	66	s	Frankfurt	3	37	r	Miami	23	73	c
Bangkok	34	93	f	Funchal	19	64	c	Milan	6	43	c
Barbados	29	84	c	Geneva	7	45	r	Moscow	3	37	c
Barcelona	20	68	f	Gibraltar	18	64	s	Munich	4	39	sl
Beirut	17	63	s	Helsinki	2	36	sl	Nairobi	27	81	f
Belgrade	15	59	s	Hong K	18	81	f	Naples	15	59	f
Berlin	7	45	f	Innsbruck	2	36	f	N Delhi	18	64	s
Bermuda	18	64	s	Istanbul	13	55	s	N York	8	46	f
Biarritz	13	55	d	Jeddah	31	88	s	Nice	13	55	f
Borde'x	13	55	c	Jo'burg	24	75	f	Oslo	3	37	f
Brussels	4	39	r	Karachi	27	81	f	Paris	9	48	c
Budapst	5	41	f	L Palmas	20	68	f	Peking	11	52	s
B Aires	24	75	c	Le Tquet	7	45	f	Perth	23	73	f
Cairo	21	70	s	Lisbon	14	57	c	Prague	7	45	s
Cape Tn	-	--		Locarno	1	34	c	Reykjavik	-2	28	f
Chicago	10	50	s	L Angels	18	61	c	Rhodes	18	64	s
Ch'church	14	57	-	Luxembg	2	36	c	Rio de J	28	82	s
Cologne	3	37	r	Luxor	26	79	s	Riyadh	19	66	s
								Rome	13	55	f
								Salzburg	7	45	f
								S F'isco	13	55	c
								Santiago	23	73	s
								S Paulo	32	90	f
								Seoul	9	48	s
								Sing'por	31	88	f
								St'kholm	3	37	c
								Strasb'rg	7	45	r
								Sydney	23	73	f
								Tangier	17	63	c
								Tel Aviv	18	64	s
								Tenerife	21	70	f
								Tokyo	12	54	s
								Toronto	1	34	c
								Tunis	17	63	f
								Valencia	20	68	f
								Vanc'ver	7	45	s
								Venice	8	46	r
								Vienna	5	41	f
								Warsaw	6	43	f
								Wash'ton	9	48	c
								Wel'ngton	17	63	s
								Zurich	3	37	r

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available



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MELVYN MARCKUS 24

Our City Editor reviews the utility farce



PROFILE 25

Partners in Power at Arthur D Little



SPORT 38-44

Champion boxer who refuses to give up the fight

23

WEEKEND SPORTING FIXTURES
Page 41

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook — SATURDAY FEBRUARY 25 1995



Power overload: Paul Williams, senior retail stockbroker of the National Westminster Bank, loads a forklift truck in London with sackfuls of applications that the bank has received for the remaining shares in PowerGen and National Power ahead of Wednesday's deadline

ICI demands inquiry into power suppliers

BY PHILIP BASSETT AND ROSS TIEMAN

CRITICISM of the privatisation of the electricity industry reached a new pitch yesterday when ICI attacked it as "flawed" and said it would seek a monopolies investigation to restructure electricity supply.

Michael Heseltine, President of the Board of Trade, is also being pressed to launch an inquiry into the regional electricity supply companies. The chairman of the cross-party Trade and Industry select committee, the Labour MP Richard Caborn, has written to him asking for a reference under Section 11.2 of the Electricity Act, which appears to allow for an inquiry if customers complain about pricing.

The special dividend of £530 million that Northern Electric has offered its shareholders in an effort to escape a £1.26 billion bid from Trafalgar House shows that the new price control formula proposed by Stephen Littlechild, the electricity regulator, is "far too lenient," Mr Caborn says.

Critics of the electricity regime are focusing upon the nature and timing of consultations held by Professor Littlechild in connection with the pricing review. Publication of Northern Electric's defence against the Trafalgar bid has drawn new attention to the extraordinary profitability of the RECs under the first five-year price control, put in place by the Government.

It has also highlighted the greater than expected value of the National Grid company, and provoked concerns about the failure of Professor Littlechild's review to have a bigger impact on the RECs' profitability.

The new price caps on the 12 regional supply companies cannot be formalised until public consultations by the regulator have been completed on April 1.

The trade and industry select committee is believed to be considering holding an inquiry into the state of Britain's privatised electricity industry. The inquiry would almost certainly look at both generation and supply, and review the planned opening of the domestic market to competition in April 1998. Professor Littlechild has already indicated that he plans to introduce trial competition within areas served by each of the RECs well ahead of the 1998 deadline.

ICI's attack on electricity privatisation, charging that it is costing consumers £1.5 billion a year unnecessarily, marks a new high point in long-running efforts by large electricity users to obtain lower power prices for big consumers.

Bryan Bulloch, ICI Chlor-Chemicals power services manager, said it was now "vital" to get the electricity industry back to where customers could get a fair, competitive deal on prices in the way that they could in any normal market.

Speaking to an energy seminar in the City, Mr Bulloch said that the "flawed" privatisation of the industry was costing consumers £1.5 billion annually, based on a close estimate of the costs attributable to unnecessary new generation plant, uncompetitive pool prices and "over-generous" regulation of the regional electricity companies.

He said: "Something is out of kilter when a generator like National Power can lose 30 per cent of its market share since privatisation and yet still increase its profit by 60 per cent."

He warned that if there was no "satisfactory solution" to the large users' claims on power prices, ICI "would have no alternative" but to press the Office of Fair Trading to initiate a Monopolies and Mergers Commission investigation.

Melvyn Marckus, page 24

Pound hit by political worries

BY JANET BUSH
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

STERLING slumped yesterday along with government bond and share prices as political worries about next Wednesday's key parliamentary debate on the Government's European policy rattled investors.

The pound's index against a basket of currencies slipped to 87.1 against 87.4 on Thursday as sterling lost more than one pfennig and over one cent against the mark and the dollar. Gilts lost the gains built up over the previous two days and the FT-SE index, which had strengthened along with Wall Street in midweek, also closed lower.

The markets turned negative after it was announced that the Prime Minister would himself defend the Government's policies on Wednesday, a move that shifted the status of the debate closer to a vote of confidence.

The effect of political worries was compounded by a continuing flood of investment money into the mark and a stronger dollar on the back of strong US durable goods orders figures.

The pound's troubles came despite encouraging trade figures, suggesting that Britain's export-led recovery remains on track. The Central Statistical Office reported that Britain's deficit with countries outside the European Union plunged to £303 million in January from what now appears to have been a highly erratic £913 million in December.

Excluding oil and erratic items, such as ships and precious stones, the non-EU trade deficit shrank to £138 million from £762 million, the smallest monthly shortfall since January, 1988.

The overwhelming popularity of the mark sent the lira and the peseta to record lows yesterday and the French franc fell to its lowest level for 16 months against the German currency.

WEEKEND MONEY



31 Anne Ashworth

MORTGAGES

29 Negative equity. The conspiracy of silence

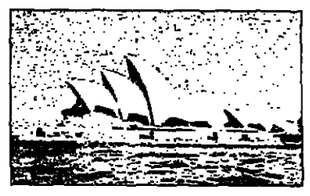


HOLIDAY MONEY



32 Patrick Moore. A traveller's tale

INVESTMENT



33 Australian Olympic hopes



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BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3037.7	(–11.6)
Yield	4.35%	
FT-SE A All shars	1500.15	(–3.56)
Nikkei	17472.94	(–357.08)
New York:		
Dow Jones	3999.30	(–4.03)*
S&P Composite	486.31	(–0.60)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5¾%*	(5¾%)
Long Bond	100$^{30}/_{32}$*	(100$^{30}/_{32}$)
Yield	7.56%*	(7.56%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6$^{11}/_{16}$%	(6$^{21}/_{32}$%)
Liffe long gilt future (Mar)	101$^{16}/_{32}$	(102$^{7}/_{32}$)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5870*	(1.5950)
London:		
$	1.5905	(1.5925)
DM	2.3261	(2.3416)
FFr	8.1790	(8.1890)
SFr	1.9803	(1.9899)
Yen	154.35	(154.13)
£ index	87.1	(87.4)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.4665*	(1.4687)
FFr	5.1595*	(5.1315)
SFr	1.2478*	(1.2492)
Yen	97.09*	(96.77)
$ Index	61.8	(61.4)

Tokyo close Yen 96.58

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (May) $16.80 ($16.75)

GOLD

London close $375.85 ($379.15)

* denotes midday trading price

US suits

Two of Britain's leading engineering groups are being sued in US. Page 24

Insurer plans bonanza payout

BY SARAH BAGNALL, INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

UNITED Friendly Group, the small UK insurer, sent shares in the insurance sector sharply higher yesterday when it announced that it would pay shareholders an annual bonanza, estimated at about £18 million after tax.

The payments — potentially worth more than the group's total 1993 dividend of £13 million — represent the investment income on £275 million of life-fund reserves that the company has identified as surplus.

After two years of number-crunching and discussions, the Department of Trade and Industry has given the insurer the go-ahead to distribute this income to shareholders.

George Mack, finance director and deputy chief executive, said: "This significantly enhances our dividend-paying capacity." The announcement lifted United Friendly's B shares 92p to 605p and triggered sharp rises elsewhere in the sector. Britannic Assurance rose 7½p to to 505p and Refuge Group 39p to 322p.

The City now expects these companies, which also boast rich reserves, to follow United Friendly's lead. Stephen Dias, an analyst at Goldman Sachs, said: "If they don't, they are exposing themselves to the threat of a takeover."

The value of the surpluses insurance companies often have locked away in their life funds was revealed in 1989 when Pearl highlighted it in its attempt to fend off a bid from AMP.

Tempus, page 26

Northern battle too close to call

BY ERIC REGULY

THE battle for Northern Electric seems to be turning into a cliff-hanger because institutional investors, who own more than 80 per cent of the company, say Trafalgar House's final offer is not obviously better value than Northern's defence package.

Several institutions said they would probably not decide which side to back until the very last minute. "Trafalgar's bid was pitched at a level that could justify holding on to Northern shares," said one investment manager.

On Thursday, Trafalgar raised its cash offer to £11 a share from £10.48. Northern was relieved: it had expected £11.50 to £12 a share.

Both sides will visit institutions next week in a last-ditch effort to win them over. The Prudential, the largest investor, with a 9 per cent stake, is the key target. Other big investors include Sun Life with 2.5 per cent; BZW Investment Management (2.5 per cent) and M&G (2 per cent).

Another investment manager said: "I think it will be touch and go because the package from Northern is not that bad compared to Traf's offer. I genuinely don't know which way I'll go."

The package being offered by Northern is worth an estimated £5.07 per share, including a £2.50 per share special dividend. Accepting Trafalgar's £11 implies, therefore, that Trafalgar's underlying business, or "the rump", is worth about £6.

Northern shares closed at 1058p, up 5p.

Ailing Pentos holds rescue talks



McGrath: confident

PENTOS, the troubled owner of the Dillons and Ryman chains, is in talks with venture capitalists in a last-ditch bid to rescue the company from possible receivership.

A number of venture capital companies have held talks with Barclays and Midland, Pentos's bankers, over the possibility of injecting new equity into the business. Industry sources believe that Electra, Schroder Ventures and Warburg Pincus are involved in the talks.

Pentos's existing £50 million bank facilities are due to expire on Tuesday. Although Bill McGrath, chief executive, is confident that the banks will roll over the group's credit facilities, analysts say Pentos needs additional funds.

Borrowings were about £45 million at the end of last year but analysts expect the sum to exceed £75 million after the payment of suppliers and landlords. City sources believe that the banks are reluctant to commit more facilities without a refinancing.

Mr McGrath has been battling to turn the group round since he took over in January last year. Some of his actions have been controversial. In December, he put the group's Athena chain into receivership, sparking a wave of protests from suppliers.

Pentos's latest problems are an embarrassment to Sir Kit McMahon, its non-executive chairman. Sir Kit is a former chairman of Midland Bank and previously held the post of Deputy Governor of the Bank of England.

Pentos refused to comment on the negotiations.

Tempus, page 26

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The Great Privatised Energy Utility Farce



MELVYN MARCKUS

Should your daughter prove insistent about going on the stage, perhaps you should encourage her to join a GenCo, or a REC, or British Gas. Limited talent? No problem. Urge her in the direction of a regulatory troupe such as Offer or Ofgas, particularly if she has a smattering of Austrian. Either way, the smell of greasepaint is guaranteed. Quite clearly, *The Great Privatised Energy Utility Farce* is going to run and run.

As with so many farces, the original script was of a relatively serious mould — long on messages about competition, efficiency and consumer choice. This never really got off the ground, but the scriptwriters — mostly professors — were given their head, and, as the actors ad-libbed, a "hit" was born. So uproarous is this farce that it is reviewed, almost on a daily basis, on the front pages of British newspapers. Not much interest is shown in the US, but *The Great Privatised Energy Utility Farce* regularly makes *News at Ten*. Such stuff is much bigger than a mere critic, or financial scribe, can cope with. But bear with me.

It is difficut to recap because the plot was long ago overtaken by sub-plots. There is, of course, a mandatory amount of slapstick. A man called Ed and another called Ced are regularly tortured by a man with a rose in his lapel. Excruciating! Chorus girls have been replaced by men, whose privatised parts are covered (quite liberally) by share options. The high kicks are a favourite on *News at Ten*.

One of the plots involves the sale of 40 per cent of National Power and PowerGen, known, on stage, as GenCos. This sale — more a giveaway — represents wonderful value for shareholders, but not for taxpayers. City analysts find the farce riveting, not least because of the extraordinary dividend projections. Outside the theatre, in a world of wind and rain, companies do not enjoy dividend covers of 3½ and exponential growth rates.

The depth of the dividend coffers, courtesy of Offer, underlines the fact that shares in the GenCos were sold off too cheaply in 1991. With an election on the not too distant horizon, history is repeating itself. The reality, of course, is that the whole electricity supply industry (ESI) was sold too cheaply. When the script was penned, all looked so neat. GenCos were supposed to be in perfect competition through the pool that established the market clearing price. National distribution, a natural monopoly, was vested in GridCo. Last, but not least, the regional electricity companies (RECs) were responsible for local distribution and marketing. Unfortunately, come this proliferation, few understood how the industry worked, let alone how to value or regulate it. That is why it has been undervalued and under-regulated.

Other sub-plots intermingle. The ESI has cut a swathe through the mining industry with a destructiveness that would have impressed Mary Shelley. The supposedly pleasurable effects of immersion in the pool were so lost on ICI that even Offer tried to impose a price cap. The RECs are hatching plans to sell their holdings in GridCo for more than the Government obtained for the taxpayer when it sold the RECs. (This skit has people rocking in the aisles with laughter). There is, however, more. Assisted by Offer's absurdly generous price reviews, the RECs, spurred on by the prospect of being permitted to raise their own electricity generation limits, are intent on becoming vertically integrated regional monopolies. Alas, their success may prove their undoing. Enter, stage left, money-hungry "hongs", witness Trafalgar House's £1.2 billion takeover bid for Northern Electric. To complicate matters further, the GenCo sale plot and the Trafalgar/Northern sub-plot have become entwined. Offer, it would appear, saw no need to refer the bid to the MMC. "Hezza", as the President of the Board of Trade is known on stage, also chose to duck the issue, presumably because the audience could not be expected to know its REC from its GenCo. Audience participation, in the GenCo share sale, is vital.

Time, perhaps, for the playwrights — who work together on an informal sort of basis — to set aside bashfulness and bathe in the limelight. Step forward Professor Stephen Littlechild, the Director-General of Offer and a leading proponent of the Austrian school of economics, indelibly associated with the work of Hayek. Littlechild advised on the regulatory regime for British Telecom and the water industry. He was the author, in the early eighties, of *Ten Steps to Denationalisation*. He also co-wrote, with his mentor Professor Michael Beesley, *The Regulation of the Privatized Utilities in the UK* — a work that displays a schizoid obsession with subdividing everything between its monopoly and competitive elements and its production/generation, distribution and marketing functions. Freud, another Austrian, might have had a thing or two to say about this. Nor should we forget Professor Colin Robinson — "Blue Robbo" — who has stalked the great *British Gas* whale with an Ahab-like obsession for almost three decades. So far, it has escaped dismemberment, but for how long? Robinson's wife, Eileen Marshall, has departed from Offer (leaving behind a fiasco in competitive metering) to join Clare Spottiswoode at Ofgas. Are we set for a rerun of the ESI comedy of errors as the same gang attempts to restructure the gas industry?

The final act of *The Great Privatized Energy Utility Farce* centres around Littlechild presiding over such chaos and pondering the infinitesimal deconstruction of almost everything into evermore furiously competing fractiles.

Earlier this month, on February 10, Offer invited representations or objections in respect of its proposed modification of REC licences to implement the latest distribution price controls. A matter of days later, Littlechild also revealed that he had started discussions with Trafalgar House regarding appropriate licence amendments.

Should Littlechild step off the boards he could, but almost certainly won't, choose to re-think Offer's miscalculated price controls. He could, of course, also refer the Trafalgar House bid to the MMC. And there, waiting in the wings on the MMC's electricity panel, is Professor Robinson.

Whistleblowers sue Lucas and TI Group in US

BY NEIL BENNETT, DEPUTY BUSINESS EDITOR

TWO of Britain's leading engineering groups are being sued by whistleblowers in America on behalf of the US Defence Department. The two men, who both lost their jobs at the companies, stand to make millions of dollars if their cases are successful.

Yesterday the US Justice Department took over a case brought by a former Lucas Industries employee which alleges that the group defrauded the Pentagon by concealing defects in military components it supplied. The group immediately attacked the case as "grossly exaggerated and based on flawed analysis". It pledged to fight the case through the courts.

Meanwhile, TI Group was hit by a suit from a former employee of its Dowty Woodville Polymer subsidiary. The action alleges that the company overcharged the Pentagon for aircraft wing seals and claims $20 million in damages.

Both cases have been brought under the "Qui Tam" legal arrangements, which enable an individual to sue on behalf of the US Government. If successful, they can receive up to a third of the damages awarded.

The whistleblower in the Lucas case informed the US Defence Department about the shortcomings in Lucas's testing in 1993. Yesterday Lucas said he had been dismissed for failing to follow quality assurance procedures.

The case against Lucas was taken over by the US Justice Department a day after the Pentagon banned the group from bidding for any future defence work. The row concerns the reliability of the gearboxes made by Lucas Western, a subsidiary in Utah, for the US Navy's F/A-18 fighter. Last month Lucas was fined $18.5 million after admitting that its staff falsified quality certificates for the gearboxes, but the civil case between Lucas and the US Navy remains unsettled.

Lucas said yesterday that the gearboxes exceed the reliability demanded in the Navy's contracts and that it has invested millions of dollars to prevent any further failure of its testing procedures.

TI said yesterday that it had not received formal notification of the action. "We will investigate it and defend it appropriately," a spokesman said. "Our procedures and policies are first class and our prices competitive."

TI acquired Dowty Woodville Polymer in 1992 as part of Dowty, when Jeffrey Thistlethwaite, the whistleblower, had already been made redundant. TI said the subsidiary's turnover is only £1 million a year. Tempus, page 26



Sir Gordon Brunton, chairman, and Farad Azima

Banging the drum for profits at Verity

BY PHILIP PANGALOS

VERITY GROUP, the Wharfedale loudspeakers to Premier drum kits group, is confident after tuning in to more than doubled first half profits.

The company reported a 105 per cent surge in pre-tax profits to £909,000 in the six months to December 31 (£444,000), on turnover ahead 30 per cent to £15.1 million.

Profits were boosted by a £215,000 exceptional gain from the sale of Touchwood Industries as Verity completed the disposal of non-core businesses. There is again no interim dividend, despite a 50 per cent jump in earnings to 0.3p (0.2p) a share, though the company intends to recommend a final dividend when the full year outcome is known.

Farad Azima, Verity's chief executive, who took the helm a couple of years ago, is confident about prospects. He said: "We have three nice businesses and things are looking good."

Verity shares firmed ½p to 9½p.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Profits dip at Union Bank of Switzerland

UNION BANK OF SWITZERLAND, the largest Swiss bank, said profits fell 29 per cent to SFr1.6 billion (£800 million) last year from a record SFr2.3 billion in 1993. The bank blamed adverse movements in interest rates for the decline. Robert Studer, president of the bank, said: "We must be open about the fact that we clearly miscalculated developments in interest rates."

Trading revenues fell 64 per cent to SFr1 billion after jumping 74 per cent in 1993. But the bank expects good group results in 1995 if markets recover, Mr Studer said. UBS said it would propose an unchanged dividends of SFr32 per bearer share and SFr6.40 francs per registered share at its annual meeting in April. It also plans to propose a reduction in the size of its board of directors to 20 members from 23.

M&G to spend £20m

RAPID growth in new business at M&G Group, the fund manager, coupled with competitive pressures, has prompted a £20 million investment programme to improve efficiencies. The three-year investment will cover the cost of redesigning the group's systems and processes and its IT infrastructure. Some job losses are expected among the group's 800 staff, but the number will depend on M&G's future volume of business. In the past five years it has increased 50 per cent.

Ranger Oil slides

RANGER OIL, the Canadian oil and gas company with extensive North Sea assets, reported US$6.1 million net earnings, compared with $20.2 million in 1993, because of higher interest costs and tax charges, coupled with lower oil prices. Oil and gas revenues increased to $152.7 million (US$147.9 million). Oil production averaged 15,039 bpd (13,779bpd). Acquisitions and new production from the Columba field boosted fourth-quarter output to 21,135 bpd.

Honeysuckle slips

SHARES in Honeysuckle Group, the USM-quoted designer of women's wear, fell 10p to 59p after a mild winter and unexpected delivery dificulties held back profits growth. Pre-tax profits edged up to £840,000 in the 26 weeks to November 30, against £834,000 last time, as turnover fell to £10.7 million, from £12.7 million. Earnings slip to 6.5p (6.7p) a share. The interim dividend is maintained at 1p and is payable on March 23.

Four firms on PLC awards shortlist

BY OUR CITY STAFF

NEVER underestimate what company chairmen will do to secure votes for the Coopers & Lybrand PLC Awards.

On hearing of his business's nomination as company of the year in the 1994 awards, Dr Fred Westlake, chairman of First Technology, wrote to all shareholders urging them to "exercise your voting right in this good cause".

Although the company fell short of supplying a stamped addressed envelope, Dr Westlake gave the name and address of Graham Cole, the Coopers & Lybrand partner in charge of the awards, which are held every year in association with *The Times*. "We are proud that First Technology has been shortlisted as one of four nominees for this prestige award," he wrote.

But will Dr Westlake's efforts prove enough to secure victory on March 9, when the winner will be announced at a dinner at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London? Mr Cole remains tight-lipped. "It will be a close run thing," he said.

First Technology is vying for the top award with Ashtead Group, the plant hire company and a previous winner; Sheriff Holdings, another plant hire company; and Taylor Nelson, the market research consultancy.

Hi-Tec gives warning

BY SUSAN GILCHRIST

SHARES in Hi-Tec Sports fell 6p to 29p yesterday after the leisurewear group issued a profit warning.

Hi-Tec said that it expects to generate only a modest profit in its second half after continued tough trading. Profit before exceptional charges for the full year will therefore be below current market expectations. Analysts trimmed profit forecasts from about £2 million to just above £1 million.

Hi-Tec, when reporting interim results in September, spoke of fierce competition from bigger sports shoe manufacturers and predicted that margins would continue to decline until at least this spring. Yesterday, it confirmed that this had been so.

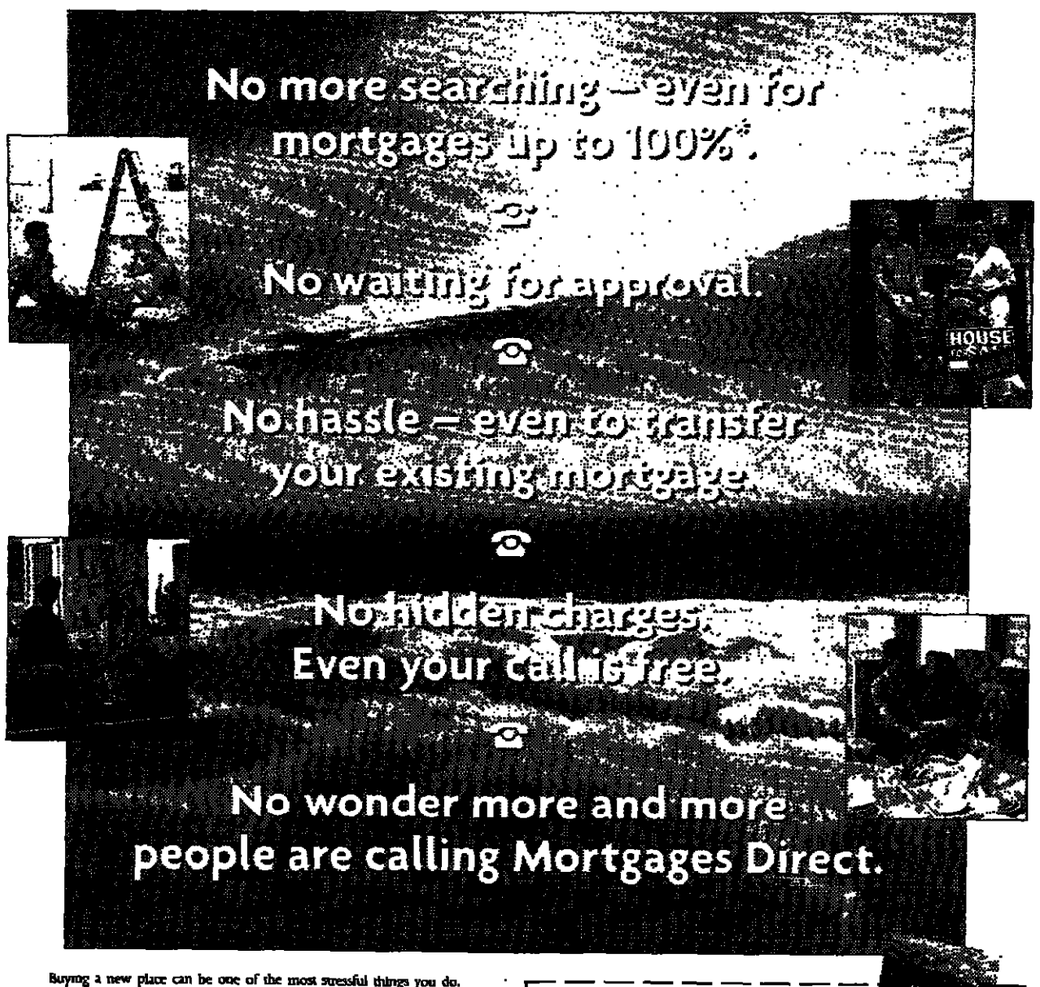
The shares fell from 78p to 45p after September's unveiling of a £7.11 million interim loss following exceptional restructuring costs of £5.91 million.

Tempus, page 26

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.28	2.09
Austria Sch	17.44	15.94
Belgium Fr	51.07	46.77
Canada $	2.321	2.161
Cyprus CypE	0.769	0.714
Denmark Kr	9.85	9.05
Finland Mkk	7.76	7.11
France Fr	8.82	7.97
Germany Dm	2.49	2.28
Greece Dr	391.00	386.00
Hong Kong $	12.93	11.93
Ireland Pt	1.05	0.97
Israel	5.2985	4.5065
Italy Lira	2685.00	2530.00
Japan Yen	168.00	152.00
Malta	0.511	0.556
Netherlds Gld	2.770	2.540
Norway Kr	10.88	10.08
Portugal Esc	259.50	235.00
S Africa Rd	nel	5.50
Spain Pta	212.50	198.50
Sweden Kr	12.16	11.38
Switzerland Fr	2.12	1.94
Turkey Lira	refer	63687.0
USA $	1.698	1.558

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.



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THE SUNDAY TIMES

"Although the announcement was not a lip-smacking mega-bid, it was nonetheless significant. Hanson was to hive off 34 of its American businesses — and going with them was a far more important element of the operation: David Clarke, chief executive of Hanson Inc . . ."

Business Focus — The Sunday Times tomorrow

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ARTHUR D LITTLE: **Tom Sommerlatte and Tim Simpson**

Doctors who buck the consultant stereotype

partners in power

Two section heads in one of Europe's most dynamic firms of management consultants talk to **Jon Ashworth**



"We speak the same language as our clients. Being thought of as talking down to them is a style we try to avoid." Tim Simpson, left, and Tom Sommerlatte

An engineer who fled East Germany for a new life in the West has risen to become the elder statesman of one of Europe's most dynamic management consultancies. His UK counterpart is a bluff Yorkshireman who plays the church organ and does not suffer fools.

Clients expecting a rather pompous stereotype are in for a pleasant surprise when they meet "The Doctors", Tom Sommerlatte and Tim Simpson.

Think of "management consultant", and an image of bold stripes and red braces springs to mind, aloof figures firing meaningless jargon at bemused clients. A few disdainful tips about "adding value" and they are gone, leaving a hefty invoice in their wake.

A stereotype, of course, associated with consultancies where white shirts and red ties are said to be *de rigueur*. Sommerlatte, who runs the European practice of Arthur D Little, is unlikely to put colour co-ordination high on his list of priorities. Simpson, head of the UK division, may look the part, but he is probably happier mucking out the stables at his farm in West Sussex. Both men have their feet firmly on the ground.

> British clients are becoming much more sophisticated in their use of consultants

The eponymous Dr Little was a professor of chemical engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in the 1880s.

While less cerebral types were bringing the Wild West to heel, the worthy doctor hit on the idea of selling his knowledge as a service. A research and development company was the result. Management consultancy evolved after the Second World War.

About the same time, a factory-owning family in Dessau in the newly partitioned East Germany was struggling to adjust to communist rule. The Sommerlattes owned a glass manufacturing company which was expropriated by the new rulers in 1951, and the 13-year-old Sommerlatte crossed the border with his parents and younger brother to start afresh.

Sommerlatte thrived on the new life. After school in Bavaria, he studied chemical engineering at the University of Berlin, then continued his studies at the University of Rochester in New York, finally obtaining a PhD from the University of Paris.

The late Sixties found him based at the nuclear research centre in Heidelberg, working for clients including Nasa. "We were programming robots to do chemical analysis on the Moon," he recalls. A belief that research could be conducted more efficiently encouraged him to read for an MBA at the Insead business school at Fontainebleau near Paris, and it was from here, in 1971, that he joined Arthur D Little in Brussels.

And there he remained. A quarter of a century later, Arthur D Little has grown into a sprawling organisation, with 2,500 employees and a huge European presence. It is now the tenth largest consultancy in Europe, generating revenue of $120 million in 1994.

Sommerlatte, 56, is based in Wiesbaden near Frankfurt, but is typically "on the road" three days a week, visiting regional offices from Madrid to Prague.

His board meetings must be a sight to behold. Just about every European nationality is represented. English is the common language. "If you close your eyes, you can picture who is speaking," he chuckles.

Sommerlatte, in his way, is the consummate modern European. He speaks English, French and German, and a smattering of Russian, a legacy of school behind the Iron Curtain. His wife, Christine, is French, and they speak French at home. They have 11 children, aged from 26 to six, and live in an upper-middle class suburb. One son is at Harvard, there is a daughter in Paris, and one of the other girls is a nun in a monastery in the South of France. They have a holiday home near La Rochelle on the west coast of France, and enjoy sailing. Sommerlatte loves windsurfing.

It goes on. He is an acclaimed artist — "abstract paintings, oil paintings, etchings ... I like colours" — and collects classic cars, a passion he shares with his brother, Horst, who designed the interior of the Airbus and is now a university professor. Between them, they own three Austin Healeys, two Porsches and a couple of Alfa Romeos. "He repairs them and I drive them," says Sommerlatte.

This is Simpson's second brush with the world of management consultancy. Now 48, he joined Arthur D Little in 1990 after a long career in the electronics industry, including a stint as managing director of Cray Computers. A "simple" Yorkshire boy, he grew up in Leeds and won a scholarship to Cambridge, where he took a first in mathematics.

A brief spell in software services led on to Colorado State University, where he obtained a PhD in maths and computer science. He joined McKinsey as a computer specialist at the age of 28. "I enjoyed McKinsey enormously, but there was always something of a tension, because I didn't know as much about industry as I would have liked," he recalls. "I was acting out a role to some extent." He left to pursue a career running factories for companies, including Eurotherm and, ultimately, Cray. "It was a set of experiences that complemented the Arthur D Little experience very well."

Brought in as managing director of the Berkeley Square office to add a touch of young blood, Simpson has seen the firm emerge from the recession into a new period of expansion. It has started offering corporate finance advice alongside merchant banks — "checking out the business plans, seeing whether they will work in reality" — and advising on deals such as the Leeds-Halifax merger. Travel and tourism is another new sideline, helping the Republic of Ireland, South Africa and the developing nations of Eastern Europe with their infrastructure.

Home is a small farm in Amberley, with ample room for his family and horses. His wife, Rosalind, pens the "Ros Writes" column in the *West Sussex County Times*. They have a boy and a girl, aged 14 and 11.

Simpson is suitably flattering about his boss: "Tom is astonishingly productive. Every vacation, he goes off and writes another business book. He's really created a team across Europe." Sommerlatte responds in kind. "Tim is a very important element of the team."

Both men talk of the huge potential for growth. "British clients are becoming much more sophisticated in their use of consultants," says Simpson. "The last recession, after the early Eighties and the Thatcher years, has really made British business much better managed. The problems are no longer basic ones."

They concede that consultants are all too often regarded with suspicion by potential clients, but say the firm's strong links with industry give it an edge. "We hire from industry where others take graduates straight from business school," says Sommerlatte. "Clients and consultants speak the same language. Should we make an acquisition? Should we penetrate new markets? How can we avoid risks? You can compare it to hiring an architect for a new factory. We help them to understand their needs and devise a solution."

Simpson could not agree more. "Management consultants are sometimes perceived as talking down to their clients," he says. "That's a style we try to avoid."

Brand experts guide firms through marketing jungle

Persil Power got it spectacularly wrong. **Jon Ashworth** hears the verdict of an image-maker

One would love to be a fly on the wall in the boardroom of Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch household products group that makes the Persil range of washing powder. It all started so well: Unilever spent a reported £200 million developing and promoting Persil Power in the UK and Omo Power on the Continent. Then pictures of rotting underpants began appearing — proof, it was said, that Power's manganese catalyst destroyed fabrics. Procter & Gamble, the company behind Ariel Ultra, was quick to cash in.

The last twist of the knife came this week, when Unilever admitted to writing off £57 million in unusable goods. Sir Michael Perry, chairman of the group's UK arm, described the episode as "the greatest marketing setback" in Unilever's history. Now, puzzled consumers are being offered New Generation Persil, which harks back to friendly, caring themes, and Persil Finesse, a non-bleach product.

The experts will tell you that it need never have happened. Companies spend up to £250,000 a time seeking the advice of so-called brand experts — consultants upon whom manufacturers rely to test consumer reaction, advise on packaging and promotion, and devise marketing strategies. The public rarely hears about them, but evidence of their work is everywhere.

The new brooms at Saatchi & Saatchi turned to one of their own companies in their quest for a new name. Siegel & Gale, an American marketing, communications and design firm, finally came up with the goods this week — Cordiant. Shareholders are to vote on the proposed change next month. Ladbroke, the hotels, betting and gaming group, began hunting for a more international name last year, but has put its plans on "permanent hold".

New products need to be groomed just as carefully. Corporate history is littered with examples of product launches that have gone horribly wrong. Shell spent a reputed £8 million on developing and marketing Formula Shell. Launched in 1986 as the "most advanced petrol in the world", it was withdrawn two years later because of consumer unease over whether the additive in the petrol damaged engines. Not so much rotting underpants as corroded cylinder heads.

Richard Zamboni, deputy managing director of Craton Lodge & Knight (CLK), a brand consultancy based in west London, blames marketing disasters on this scale on "corporate megalomania" by companies that become too powerful and myopically try to force their ideas onto the market.

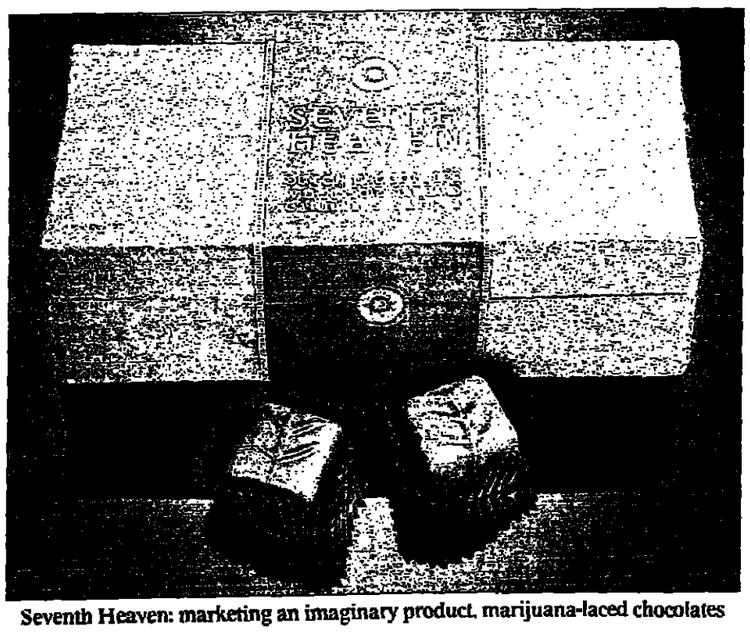
"Persil is traditionally a caring brand," Zamboni says. "Then along comes Power and it's zap! between the eyes. Now, with Finesse, they're back to the caring image."

CLK and rival brand specialists, such as Interbrand, earn their keep by developing new brands or trying to revive dated products. CLK came up with the name and packaging for Cadbury's TimeOut snack, for instance, and helped National Westminster Bank to position its insurance sales arm, NatWest Life.

Zamboni says that the 1990s have seen the arrival of the "classless brand" — one that does not try to align itself with working-class or middle-class values. He cites First Direct, the telephone banking arm of Midland Bank, as a classic classless brand. "You don't have to be a *sort* of person to use First Direct," he says. "They are not seeking to identify you by your needs."

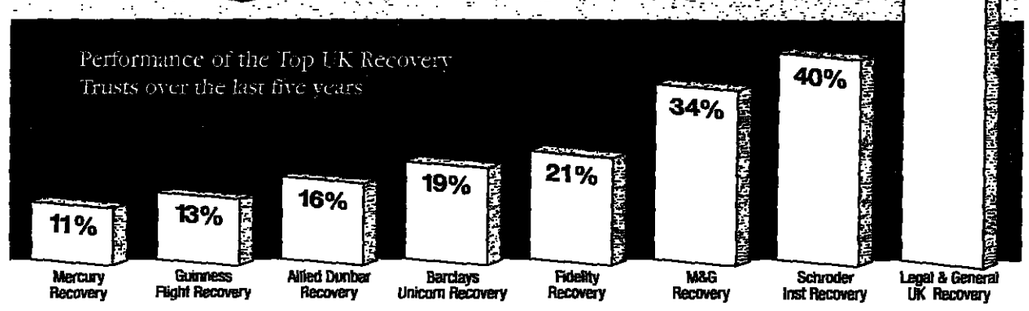
Testing new ground, CLK was recently asked to develop a marketing strategy for an imaginary marijuana product. It came up with Seventh Heaven — a collection of marijuana-laced chocolates aimed at females aged 25 to 40. The firm will feature in a Channel 4 documentary on March 4 as part of "Pot Night", an evening of documentaries and films about cannabis.

Not everyone uses brand consultants — and one need only look to America for proof. Examples of products that could do with the CLK touch include the unfortunately named Meeter's Kraut Juice, and a shampoo called Gee, Your Hair Smells Terrific.



Seventh Heaven: marketing an imaginary product, marijuana-laced chocolates

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341

STOCK MARKET  MICHAEL CLARK

United Friendly giveaway lifts other life assurers

SHARES of the big life assurance companies were in demand as it emerged that they have hundreds of millions of pounds to give away to shareholders.

United Friendly stood out with a leap of 91p to 604p, after it issued details of a financial bonanza for shareholders worth almost £300 million. *The company says it has* identified surplus funds of £275 million which are attributable to shareholders. The funds are known as orphan assets, *unclaimed* assets trapped in a life fund.

The group made its move after applying successfully to the Department of Trade and Industry for approval to set up a new life funds structure. Under these proposals, 90 per cent of the *surplus from the* with-profits business is allocated to policyholders, and the remainder to shareholders. A total of £275 million is expected to be set aside for shareholders, out of total assets of more than £2 billion.

Brokers said the news was likely to have a positive affect on profits, and result in sizeable dividend increases. The lead taken by United Friendly is expected to be followed by other life assurance companies and provide a useful boost to their share prices. in anticipation **Refuge Assurance** *climbed 39p to 322p*, **Britannic**, 71p to 505p, **Legal & General**, 7p to 448p, and **Prudential**, 9p to 308p.

Wall Street's record breaking *run overnight which carried* the Dow Jones industrial average back above the 4,000 level, failed to inspire investors in London, where political worries continued to overshadow events. Next week's House of Commons vote on Europe is rapidly being interpreted in the City as a vote of confidence.

As a result, investors were inactive. The FT-SE 100 index never looked like making headway and quickly lost ground as Wall Street also failed to keep Thursday's momentum going. It managed to close just above its worst of the day with a loss of 11.6 points at 3,037.7, a fall on the week of just 6.5, as fewer than 500 million shares were traded.

Northern Electric rallied 5p to £10.58 on turnover of fewer than 2 million shares. Institutional investors have been unable to contain their disappointment over the increased terms from **Trafalgar House** to £11 a share, valuing Northern at £1.23 billion. It had been hoped that Trafalgar would pitch its terms at between £11.50 and £12 a share. Brokers say the move has enhanced Northern's chances of remaining independent. Trafalgar, which accompanied its terms with a forecast of first half losses, eased 1p to 63½p.

Meanwhile, speculators *have turned their attention to* **Yorkshire Electricity**, up 12p at 832p, where their has been persistent talk of a bid from **Hanson**, 4p down at 237½p. *Brokers also refuse to rule out* a bid from one of the power generators, such as **National Power**, 7p off at 475p, and **PowerGen**, 6p down at 513p.

Some positive comments from UBS, the broker, was good for **Carlton Communications**, which finished 13p better at 891p.

The Telegraph added a further 2p to 436p following proposals by Conrad Black earlier this week to take the company private again. Brokers are hoping the move will signal the end of the newspaper price war. Such hopes lifted **United Newspapers**, publisher of the *Daily Express*, 9p to 503p, **News International**, *publisher of The Times, 13p to 248p*. **Pearson**, 5p to 569p and **Mirror Group**, 5p to 136p.

Lucas Industries continued to lose ground, slipping a further 1½p to 173½p, for a two-day defecit of 8½p, reflecting this week's decision by a *US court to prevent the company* tendering for any more defence contracts.

Last month Lucas was fined $18.5 million after admitting having made false claims about the inspection of equipment supplied to the US military.

In a separate move **TI Group** eased 1p to 333p as it *tried to allay worries over ther* legal action it faces over claims of over-pricing contracts for polymer goods to the US military. The company *points out that polymer sales* to the US military last year amounted to just £1 million.

Hi-Tec Sports dropped 6p to 29p after issuing its second profits warning in under six months. The group, headed by Frank van Wezel, says that only a modest additional pre-tax profit will be generated *during the last six months of* the year. In September the group reported £1 million first-half pre-tax profits which were wiped out by exceptional charges of £5.6 million relating to the group's restructuring programme.

Honeysuckle, the clothing manufacturer, fell 10p to 59p as the market expressed disappointment with first-half figures showing pre-tax profits £6,000 ahead at *£840,000*. The group blamed the mild winter and unexpected delivery problems.

Chairman David Serr was *hopeful that cost-cutting* moves would start to come through on the bottom line during the 12 months.

☐ **GILT-EDGED**: Gilts suffered losses *stretching to* almost £1 as investors began taking profits after the gains of the past few days. Dealers said overnight falls on the US bond market triggered the move, after prices were squeezed higher following Wednesday's auction. An unexpected rise in US durable goods during January meant that prices closed near their low for the day.

In the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt tumbled £29/32 to £101 5/16 as a total of 73,000 contracts were completed.

At the longer end of the conventional market, benchmark Treasury 8 per cent 2013 lost £19/32 at £97 9/32, while in shorts, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £31/32 down at £94 31/32.

☐ **NEW YORK**: US shares were lower after investors used a stronger than expected January durable goods report to take profits. At midday the Dow Jones industrial average was down 4.03 points at 3,999.30. Declining shares led advancing issues by about 11 to eight.



Warning afoot: Frank van Wezel, chairman of Hi-Tec Sports

Rank Organisation climbed 12p to 378p after a presentation for fund managers arranged by Henderson Crosthwaite, the broker. *They heard that the sale of part of its Rank Xerox stake was a positive move and its forecast of a 10 per cent rise in turnover and 50 per cent rise in profits was reiterated.* **Rank's AGM is on Tuesday.**

MOVERS OF THE WEEK

	Current price	Week's change	
United Friendly 'B'	605p	+102p	£275 million excess assets
CentreGold	48p	-51p	Profits warning
Northern Electric	£10.58	-53p	Trafalgar increased terms
Rhino Group	8½p	-4½p	Rights issue, losses
Acatos & Hutcheson	253p	-7p	Profits warning
Saatchi & Saatchi	94½p	-11½p	Loss of Mars account
The Daily Telegraph	436p	+58p	Proposed bid for minority stake
Fisons	125p	+6p	Company reconstruction expected
Refuge Assurance	322p	+47p	Surplus assets

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):
Dow Jones .... 3999.30 (-4.03)
S&P Composite .... 486.31 (-2.60)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average .... 17472.94 (-357.08)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 8218.95 (+242.54)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index .... 410.60 (-0.86)

Sydney:
AO .... 1911.1 (+17.6)

Frankfurt:
DAX .... 2118.64 (-0.40)

Singapore:
Straits .... 2114.52 (+25.68)

Brussels:
General .... 7006.91 (-5.68)

Paris:
CAC-40 .... 1805.74 (-21.27)

Zurich:
SKA Gen .... 629.60 (-0.60)

London:
FT 30 .... 2305.3 (-9.0)
FT 100 .... 3037.7 (-11.6)
FT-SE Mid 250 .... 3407.4 (+6.4)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100 .... 1303.66 (-7.65)
FT A All-Share .... 1500.15 (-3.56)
FT Non Financials .... 1619.41 (+6.16)
FT Gold Mines .... 198.3 (-1.2)
FT Fixed Interest .... 110.15 (-0.33)
FT Govt Secs .... 90.93 (-0.47)
Bargains 21590
SEAQ Volume 495.6m
USM (Datastrm) .... 146.58 (-0.15)
US$ .... 1.5805 (-0.0115)
German Mark .... 2.3308 (-0.0134)
Exchange Index .... 87.1 (-0.3)
Bank of England official close (4pm)
£:ECU 1.2429
£:SDR 1.0657
RPI .... 146.0 Jan (3.3%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Bath Press (10)	13	...
GET Group (125)	128	...
Inv Tst of Inv Tsts	86	...
Inv Tst of Inv Tsts Wts	57	...
Lazard Birla Ida	49½	+1
Lazard Birla Ida Wts	29½	+1½
MCIT S Cap (35)	34	...
MCIT S Inc (35)	36	...
Pentex Oil	85	+13
Photobition (150)	156	...
Wessex Trust	11	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

BTP n/p (225)	24	+5
Bath Press n/p (10)	3	...
Cadbury Sch Cv Ln p/p	185	+4
Euro Colour n/p (57)	20	+1
Nat Home Lns n/p (110)	½	...
Shorco n/p (90)	2	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:
Berkeley Group .... 329p (+6p)
Broken Hill .... 862p (+3p)
Sime Darby .... 140p (+7p)
Mitel .... 306p (+16p)
Telspec .... 379p (+8p)
Rank Org .... 378p (+12p)
Cattles .... 157p (+6p)
Govett .... 300p (+7p)
Provident .... 556p (+12p)
MEPC .... 396p (+8p)

FALLS:
Tilbury Douglas .... 453p (-10p)
RMC Group .... 914p (-8p)
Redland .... 430p (-7p)
Waterhouse .... 33p (-5p)
ICI .... 692p (-23p)
Charter .... 757p (-7p)
Johnson Matthey .... 514p (-16p)
Amersham .... 829p (-9p)
Glaxo .... 629p (-7p)
Misys .... 333p (-20p)
Honeysuckle .... 59p (-10p)
Wellcome .... 1011p (-6p)
Arjo Wiggins .... 246p (-5p)

Closing Prices Page 28

TEMPUS

On Golden Pond

LOOKING to the future, insurance industry pundits see little but gloom for traditional medium-sized and smaller *life companies*. Lacking the volume to cut costs, they will be *squeezed* between *price* competition under the new disclosure rules and heavier regulatory costs. Lacking either guaranteed distribution, like bancassurers, or the selling power of the Prudential and top mutuals, they will be squeezed in a post-*industrial market shorn* of endowment mortgages and premium relief. *Mergers* are forecast. A private retirement home has even been set up for smaller fry.

That, at least, is the theory. Meanwhile, past caution is proving something of a vein of gold, once companies and their actuaries can work out how to mine it. *London & Manchester* showed the way: United Friendly Group has hit the jackpot. After two years of *detailed* work, it has managed to free nearly 14 per cent of its life fund from limbo to *provide* income for shareholders. At the same time, it has boosted policyholders' bonuses, reserved against investment risks and established a proper *90:10 split of on-going* life fund profits in favour of policyholders.

Analysts believe this would enable UFG to double its dividend, raising the potential yield, after yesterday's share price jump, to nearly 7 per cent. If UFG wants to remain in the game, it might well choose instead to plough the proceeds into *reforms* to enable it to compete in tomorrow's tougher markets. Only two *things* are certain. Comparable old-established companies, notably Refuge and Britannic, will have to follow suit. And if such companies do eventually merge, they will do so from a much stronger position.

Pentos

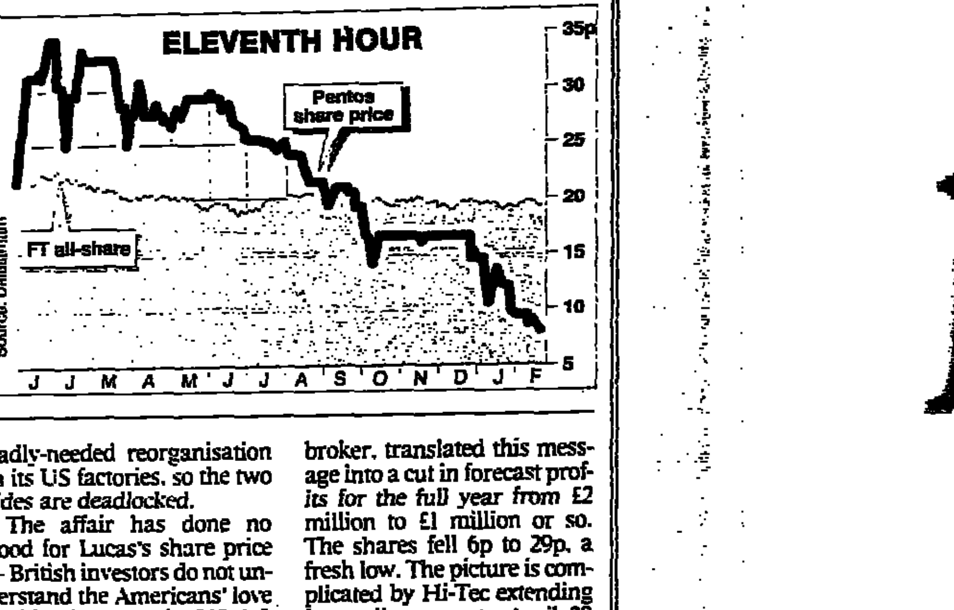
PENTOS'S future looks decidedly precarious. Its banks appear reluctant to come up with fresh financing, but the group has few other options.

Another rights issue is out of the question. Shareholders who participated in last March's fund-raising at 25p a share are still licking their wounds, with the shares at 8p. The banks appear in no mood to agree to a debt-for-equity swap, and, indeed, Pentos may not favour such an option. After all, banks make bad shareholders.

A trade sale of either the *Rymans or Dillons* chain would take too long, and, at this delicate stage, it may be difficult to achieve anything other than fire-sale prices. So, the group is left with little choice but to turn to third parties, such as venture capitalists, to inject new equity *into the business. Or face* receivership.

Should it come to that, the reputation of the banks will certainly be tarnished. Only two months ago, they let Athena be put into receivership to give the group a future. Yet they now appear to be jeopardising that future.

The cost base of Dillons may be too high, but Dillons is still a valid brand with some value. If the banks pull the plug, they will have to move quickly to retain any of that value: publishers have retention-of-title clauses on stock, and landlords will not hesitate to repossess stores. Ordinary shareholders — unlikely to end up with much — are, in that scenario, sure to end up with nothing.



Lucas

LUCAS and the *Pentagon* seem to be engaged in a no-holds barred mud-slinging match. So far, the military are landing most of the direct hits.

The US *authorities hit* Lucas with a painful one-two last week when the Pentagon's ban on Lucas bidding for future defence work was *swiftly followed by the Justice* Department taking over the whistleblower's civil case against the company.

All this is thoroughly acri*monious but is really* little more than a negotiating posture. The Pentagon has been trying to squeeze a generous damages settlement out of *Lucas for several months* over the falsification of quality certificates on vital gearboxes on the F/A-18. Lucas made the mistake of providing £87.6 *million* for the costs of the affair and subsequent reorganisation. Naturally the Pentagon now wants most of this. But Lucas intended to spend most of the cash on some badly-needed reorganisation in its US factories, so the two *sides are deadlocked*.

The affair has done no good for Lucas's share price — British investors do not understand the Americans' love of *litigation. But the US def*ence business, although profitable, is a backwater in Lucas where the key to its prosperity lies in its auto*motive division. The shame* is that these wranglings will be distracting George Simpson, chief executive, from the main task in hand.

Hi-Tec

THE Stock Exchange's insistence on companies producing trading statements at every turn is having curious consequences. Yesterday's two paragraphs from Hi-Tec, the running shoe group, *merely reminded the market* that it said at the half-year stage the second six months would be tough and then confirmed that they were.

Hoare Govett, the house broker, translated this message into a cut in forecast prof*its for the full year from* £2 million to £1 million or so. The shares fell 6p to 29p, a fresh low. The picture is complicated by Hi-Tec extending *its trading year to April 30* from January 31.

Even that is unlikely to help Hi-Tec's figures. It has suffered from the retail dol*drums in the UK and US*. Even without the trading statement it would have been possible to guess that the company had not thrived *after Sears reported tough* trading at its Olympus sports shops.

Shareholders, including Frank van Wezel, the chairman, with 52.8 per cent, must barely be able to recall the all-time high of 206p reached in May 1992. But that was before recession struck Nike *and Reebok began discount*ing their upmarket brands and treading on Hi-Tec territory.

EDITED BY NEIL BENNETT

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Mar	1056-1055	May	1073-1072
May	1049-1048	Jul	1081-1078
Jul	1054-1050	Sep	1090-1088
Sep	1055-1054	Dec	1102-1100
Dec	1054-1053		
Mar	1064-1063		Volume: 15874

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Mar	3095-3090	Nov	2958-2956
May	3054-3050	Jan	2950-2940
Jul	2998-2997	Mar	2955-2940
Sep	2975-2970		Volume: 3016

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Dec	350.0-46.1
Spot: 405.8		Mar	347.0-42.5
May	400.5-99.0	May	346.9-40.5
Aug	384.0-82.6	Aug	344.9-37.5
Oct	355.5-53.1		Volume: 1130

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on February 23

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	87.81	123.08	122.06
(+/-)	+5.31	+1.40	-0.53
Eng/Wales:	87.91	123.51	121.61
(+/-)	+5.38	+1.49	-0.43
(%)	-1.0	+5.0	-1.0
Scotland:	80.70	121.54	124.03
(+/-)	+1.58	+1.12	-1.12
(%)	+25.0	+9.0	+7.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	17.15	+0.05
Brent 15 day (Apr)	16.95	+0.05
Brent 15 day (May)	16.80	(n/c)
W Texas Intermediate (Apr)	18.55	(n/c)
W Texas Intermediate (May)	18.40	(n/c)

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 173 (+1)	O: 176 (+2)
Gasoil EEC	148 (-1)	149 (-1)
Non EEC 1H Apr	150 (+1)	151 (+1)
Non EEC 1H May	150	152
3.5 Fuel Oil	107 (n/c)	109 (n/c)
Naphtha	169 (-1)	171 (-1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Mar	145.25-45.50	Jun	147.25-47.50
Apr	147.00-47.25	Jul	148.50-48.75
May	147.25-47.50		Vol: 11895

BRENT (6.00pm)

Apr	16.90-16.92	Jul	16.61-16.65
May	16.77-16.78	Aug	unq
Jun	16.72-16.76		Vol: 15426

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Mar	108.60	Mar	101.60
May	110.35	May	103.40
Jul	111.40	Sep	97.00
Sep	98.80	Nov	99.15
Nov	99.65	Jan	100.85
Volume: 149		Volume: 90	

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Apr	308.0	311.3
May	unq	337.5
Jun	—	—
		Volume: 147

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)
Mar 115.25-115.75

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Mar 95	2060	2043	2043
Apr 95	2049	2033	2035
Jul 95	1800	1780	1780
Oct 95	1790	1780	1775
Vol: 150 lots		Open Interest: 4007	

Index 2027 +4

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)			Rudolf Wolff
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	Cash: 2873.0-2873.5	3mth: 2863.0-2864.0	Vol: 1456700
Lead ($/tonne)	584.50-585.00	602.50-603.00	153100
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1027.0-1027.5	1049.5-1050.0	408525
Tin ($/tonne)	5400.0-5410.0	5496.0-5500.0	29525
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1851.5-1852.5	1889.5-1890.0	1149475
Nickel ($/tonne)	8239.0-8240.0	8379.0-8380.0	64170

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Mar 95	3046.0	3047.0	3017.0	3027.0	10261
Previous open interest: 68331	Jun 95	3050.0	3050.0	3039.0	3034.5	202
FT-SE 250	Mar 95				3410.0	0
Previous open interest: 4003	Jun 95				3430.0	0
Three Month Sterling	Mar 95	93.09	93.10	93.03	93.07	9675
Previous open interest: 449073	Jun 95	92.42	92.42	92.31	92.35	26810
	Sep 95	91.97	91.97	91.80	91.87	14144
Three Mth Eurodollar	Mar 95				93.74	0
Previous open interest: 2596	Jun 95				93.40	0
Three Mth Euro DM	Mar 95	94.83	94.86	94.83	94.84	16643
Previous open interest: 791606	Jun 95	94.50	94.52	94.47	94.48	31434
Long Gilt	Mar 95	101-27	101-28	101-05	101-10	74129
Previous open interest: 96576	Jun 95	102-04	102-05	101-16	101-19	28520
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 95	110.08	110.22	110.01	110.00	319
	Jun 95	109.17	109.34	109.10	109.12	2975
German Gov Bd Bund	Mar 95	90.83	90.95	90.69	90.70	119802
Previous open interest: 220357	Jun 95	90.34	90.43	90.21	90.21	15223
Three month ECU	Mar 95	93.72	93.76	93.68	93.69	959
Previous open interest: 25192	Jun 95	93.23	93.23	93.18	93.18	1626
Euro Swiss Franc	Mar 95	96.03	96.05	96.03	96.03	883
Previous open interest: 47218	Jun 95	95.70	95.71	95.66	95.68	1102
Italian Govmt Bond	Mar 95	98.40	98.55	97.55	97.73	38018
Previous open interest: 57071	Jun 95	97.42	97.48	96.68	96.71	2025

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¾ Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6 Low 4 Week fixed: 6¼
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6⅛; 3 mth 6⅛. Sell: 2 mth 6⅛; 3 mth: 6⅛.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6¼-6⅛	6⅛-6¼	6⅝-6½	6⅞-6¾	
Sterling Money Rates:	6½-6⅜	6⅝-6⅝	6⅞-6⅞	7¼-7	7⅞-7⅞
Interbank:	6½-6⅜	6⅝-6⅝	6⅞-6⅞	7¼-7	7⅞-7⅞

Overnight: open 5¾, close 4.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	6½	n/a	6¾	7	7⅞
Sterling CDs:	6⅞-6⅞	6⅞-6⅞	6⅞-6¾	7⅛-6⅞	7⅞-7⅞
Dollar CDs:	5.98-5.95	n/a	6.04-6.01	6.36-6.33	6.68-6.65
Building Society CDs:	6½-6⅜	6⅝-6⅝	6⅞-6⅞	7¼-7	7⅞-7⅞

TREASURY BILLS: Applicts: £3,350m allotted: £700m; Bids: £98.455% received: 96%; Last week: £98.46% received: 6%: Avge rate: £6.1884% last wk £6.1553%: Next week: £700m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	6-5⅞	6⅛-5⅞	6⅛-5⅞	6⅝-6⅜	5½-4¾
Deutschemark:	4⅞-4⅞	5-4⅞	5⅛-5	5¼-5⅛	5¼-4¾
French Franc:	5⅝-5½	5⅝-5⅝	5⅞-5¾	6⅛-6	6-5
Swiss Franc:	3⅝-3½	3⅝-3⅝	3⅝-3½	4⅛-4	4¼-3¾
Yen:	2¼-2	2¼-2⅛	2⅜-2¼	2⅜-2¼	2¼-1½

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $379.60-380.00 Close: $375.60-376.10 High: $379.60-380.00 Low: $374.40-374.90 AM: $379.60 PM: $377.75

Krugerrand: $377.00-379.00 (£237.00-239.00)

Platinum: $417.00 (£262.50) **Silver:** $4.67 (£2.375) **Palladium:** $156.50 (£98.55)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Feb 24	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.6136-2.6223	2.6136-2.6169	¼-⅛pr	1¼-⅞pr
Brussels	48.04-48.19	48.04-48.15	7-2pr	20-11pr
Copenhagen	9.2320-9.2560	9.2320-9.2470	¼-⅛pr	2¼-1¼pr
Dublin	1.0009-1.0101	1.0075-1.0101	8-6pr	16-12pr
Frankfurt	2.3245-2.3380	2.3245-2.3277	¼-⅛pr	1-⅞pr
Lisbon	241.98-243.00	241.99-242.63	56-66ds	195-218ds
Madrid	205.26-205.76	205.26-205.56	30-29pr	101-114ds
Milan	2584.30-2602.90	2584.30-2594.00	5-7ds	16-19ds
Montreal	2.2070-2.2179	2.2148-2.2179	0.18-0.31ds	0.44-0.60ds
New York	1.5830-1.5910	1.5900-1.5910	0.07-0.04pr	0.21-0.17pr
Oslo	10.2530-10.3100	10.2530-10.2690	1½-½pr	4¼-2¾pr
Paris	8.1720-8.1920	8.1720-8.1860	¼-⅛pr	1½-1¼pr
Stockholm	11.4990-11.5720	11.4990-11.5230	1-1¼ds	3½-4¼ds
Tokyo	153.92-154.48	154.21-154.48	¾-½pr	1½-1¼pr
Vienna	16.41-16.52	16.48-16.52	2¼-1¼pr	7¼-5¼pr
Zurich	1.9789-1.9898	1.9789-1.9818	¼-⅛pr	1½-1¼pr

Source: Extel. *Premium = pr. Discount = ds.*

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3555-1.3564
Austria	10.36-10.37
Belgium (Com)	30.34-30.37
Canada	1.3943-1.3948
Denmark	5.8320-5.8350
France	5.1720-5.1740
Germany	1.4730-1.4740
Hong Kong	7.7310-7.7315
Ireland	1.5753-1.5766
Italy	1636.0-1638.0
Japan	97.25-97.35
Malaysia	2.5535-2.5545
Netherlands	1.6520-1.6530
Norway	6.4988-6.5023
Portugal	152.80-153.10
Singapore	1.4505-1.4515
Spain	129.45-129.65
Sweden	7.2721-7.2821
Switzerland	1.2535-1.2545

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5833-1.5859
Australia dollar	2.1457-2.1479
Bahrain dinar	0.593-0.605
Brazil real*	1.3363-1.3404
Cyprus pound	0.72-0.73
Finland markka	7.140-7.256
Greece drachma	366.5-373.5
Hong Kong dollar	12.2359-12.2405
India rupee	49.38-50.34
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4675-0.4775
Malaysia ringgit	4.0419-4.0453
Mexico peso	n/a
New Zealand dollar	2.5022-2.5053
Pakistan rupee	48.55 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.8975-6.0235
Singapore dollar	2.2960-2.2986
S Africa rand (fin)	6.1128-6.1485
S Africa rand (com)	5.7171-5.7287
U A E dirham	5.7725-5.8965

Barclays Bank GTS • Lloyds Bank

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	345	Legal & Gn	2,900
ASDA Gp	5,700	Lloyds Bk	2,300
Abbey Natl	2,200	MEPC	1,200
Alld Dom	3,600	Marks Spr	5,700
Argyll Gp	1,600	NatWst Bk	6,800
Arjo Wiggn	1,200	Nat Power	1,900
AB Foods	174	Nth Wst W	586
BAA	1,700	P & O	2,800
BAT Inds	3,900	Pearson	1,000
BOC	831	PowerGen	932
BP	6,100	Prudential	13,000
BTR	4,600	RMC	161
BT	10,000	RTZ	1,100
Bk of Scot	783	Rank Org	3,700
Barclays	2,700	Reckitt Col	149
Bass	584	Redland	1,000
Blue Circle	2,200	Reed Intl	894
Boots	1,500	Rentokil	1,400
Bowater	2,400	Reuters	5,000
Brit Aero	797	Rolls Royce	3,200
Brit Airwys	813	Ryl Ins	4,200
Brit Gas	6,200	Ryl Bk Scot	2,300
Brit Steel	3,700	Sainsbury	913
Burmah Cstl	625	Schroders	2
Cable Wire	1,200	Scot & New	83
Cadbury	1,400	Scot Power	2,800
Caradon	569	Sears	4,700
Carlton Cms	892	Svrn Trent	170
Cm Union	2,400	Shell Trans	9,700
Courtaulds	278	Siebe	339
De La Rue	382	SmKl Bch	13,000
Eastern Elec	330	Smith Nph	7,200
Enterpr Oil	773	Sthern Elec	373
Forte	1,700	Std Chartd	1,900
GKN	421	Sun Allnce	3,000
GRE	1,500	TI Gp	1,300
GUS	449	TSB	5,700
Gen Acc	1,500	Tesco	6,200
Gen Elec	4,500	Thames W	379
Glaxo	4,700	Thrn EMI	470
Granada	564	Tomkins	2,100
Grand Met	6,200	Unilever	1,100
Guinness	3,600	Utd Bisc	156
HSBC	1,500	Vodafone	4,900
Hanson	8,200	Warburg (SG)	259
ICI	4,900	Wellcome	1,900
Inchcape	1,600	Whitbread	909
Kingfisher	1,000	Wllms Hld	617
Ladbroke	1,800	Wolseley	447
Land Secs	2,700	Zeneca	2,700

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
Alld Dom.	500	20½	30	38	11	24½	26
(*504½)	550	4	10	17	46	55½	56½
Argyll	260	22½	26	29½	6½	12	13
(*273)	280	11½	15½	19	15	22½	23½
ASDA	60	8½	11	11½	0	1	2
(*68)	70	1½	5	6	3½	4½	6
Boots	460	31	40½	45½	3½	13	15½
(*483)	500	8	18	25	21½	33½	35½
Br Airways	360	33½	42	48	3½	11	14½
(*387)	390	13½	23½	31½	14	24	27½
BP	390	24	30½	37	5½	9	14½
(*403½)	420	7½	15½	22	20	24	29½
Br Steel	160	7	11½	15	5	8½	10½
(*161)	180	1	4	7	19	21	22½
C & W	360	31	40	45½	4	11½	14
(*383½)	390	12½	22	29	15½	24½	27½
CU	493	30	—	—	13	—	—
(*516½)	543	5½	—	—	46	—	—
ICI	650	47½	57½	65½	8	14½	21½
(*696)	700	14½	30	39	31½	37½	45½
Kingfishr.	420	20	26½	34½	11	22½	28½
(*433)	460	5	11	19	38	49½	54
Land Sec	550	42½	50	54	2½	13	15
(*585)	600	11½	19	26½	19½	38½	40½
M & S	360	22	28½	34	3½	10	13
(*375)	390	6	13	19	18	25½	28½
Nat West	500	12½	26	33	22½	28½	36
(*503½)	550	1½	10	16	64	65½	69½
Sainsbury	390	31	37½	43	2	10½	12½
(*414)	420	11½	19½	26½	12½	23½	26
Shell	700	19	28½	41	18½	25½	31
(*708)	750	2	9½	20	59	59½	63
Smkl Bch.	460	49½	58	65½	1½	7	12
(*508)	500	19½	32½	40½	12	20½	26½
Storehse	220	11	16	19½	4	9½	10½
(*224)	240	3½	7	10½	16½	20½	21½
Trafalgar	60	6½	9½	11	1	2½	3½
(*64)	70	2	4½	6½	6½	7½	8½
Unilever.	1150	45	61½	87½	21	30	38½
(*1180)	1200	17	36	60½	49½	57	64½
Zeneca	850	44½	65	78	26	33	41½
(*880)	900	20	41	54½	54½	60	67½
Series		**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**
Grnd Met.	360	27½	33½	39	5½	10½	12½
(*377)	390	10½	17	23½	18½	25	26½
Ladbroke	160	15½	20	22½	4	6½	8½
(*172½)	180	5	10½	13	14	17	19
Utd Bisc	330	22	28	32	13½	17	21
(*343)	360	8½	15	18½	32½	35	38

Series		Calls Apr	Jul	Oct	Puts Apr	Jul	Oct
BAA	420	26½	34½	41	5½	11½	14½
(*437)	450	10	—	—	18	—	—
Thames W	460	25½	37	42½	5½	18	22½
(*478)	500	8	17	22	25½	40½	44½
Series		**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**
BAT Ind	420	18½	25½	30½	22	30½	33½
(*423)	460	4½	11½	16½	51½	57½	60
BTR	300	19	26	29½	7½	10½	15½
(*315½)	330	5½	12½	15½	25½	27½	31½
Br Aero	448	31	—	—	16½	—	—
(*464½)	487	13	—	—	38	—	—
Br Telcm	360	32½	39	41½	3½	9	12
(*383½)	390	13½	20½	24½	14½	23	25½
Cadbury	409	30½	41	—	7	10½	—
(*427)	447	10	20½	—	26	28½	—
Guinness	390	34	39½	44	5½	9½	11½
(*419)	420	13½	22	27	18½	22½	25
GEC	280	21½	26½	29½	3½	9	11
(*293)	300	9½	14½	18½	12	19	21
Hanson	220	22½	25	26½	2	4½	6½
(*237½)	240	9	12½	15	8½	12½	15
LASMO	140	15½	20	22½	3	5	6½
(*151½)	160	5½	9½	13	12½	14½	16
Lucas	160	17½	22½	26	3½	6	9½
(*173½)	180	7½	12	15½	13	15½	19½
Pilkngtn	160	12	14½	18	3½	7	8½
(*166½)	180	3½	5½	9	15	18	19½
Prudential	300	14	20	24½	12	14½	18½
(*307½)	330	4	8½	12½	33½	34½	37½
Redland	430	22	28½	33½	18	23½	29
(*431)	460	5	12½	17½	48	51½	54½
R-Royce	140	16	19	21½	3	5½	6½
(*153)	160	5	9½	12	13½	16	17
Tesco	240	17½	21	24½	5½	8	10½
(*252)	260	6½	11	14½	16	18½	20½
Vodafone	180	21½	25½	30	3	6	8
(*195½)	200	9½	14	19	11	14½	17
Williams	300	31½	35½	37½	4	7½	11½
(*326½)	330	10½	17½	21½	17½	21½	26

FT-SE INDEX (*3037)

	2900	2950	3000	3050	3100	3150
Calls						
Mar	137	93½	57½	29	12½	4
Apr	150	113	82½	56½	36	21
May	169	133½	103½	77	55	38½
Jun	179½	146½	116½	91½	69½	51½
Dec	270	—	208	—	159	—
Puts						
Mar	7	15½	29	52½	87½	133
Apr	26½	40	59½	83½	112½	148½
May	39	53½	73½	96½	124	158
Jun	48½	65	84	109	136½	169½
Dec	94	—	130½	—	180	—

Series		Calls Mar	Jun	Sep	Puts Mar	Jun	Sep
Abby Nat.	420	27½	32½	39½	3	11	17
(*446)	460	3	13	20	28	32½	38
Amstrad	150	10	16½	—	1½	6	—
(*159½)	175	0½	6	—	17	20½	—
Barclays	600	23	35½	47½	10½	23	31
(*615½)	650	3	14	25	47½	53½	59½
Blue Circ.	260	8½	16	21½	5	15½	20½
(*262)	280	1½	8	13½	18½	29	33
Br Gas	280	18	23	26½	0½	6	9
(*296½)	300	4	10½	15½	6	16	18½
Dixons	200	14	22	25	1½	6½	10
(*212)	220	3	11	14½	10½	15½	21½
Forte	220	20½	25	29½	0½	6	8
(*239)	240	6½	12½	18	5½	14½	17
Hillsdwn	160	15½	18½	20½	0	4½	6½
(*175)	180	2	6	10	6½	15	17½
Lonrho	140	12½	19	20½	0½	3½	6½
(*151½)	160	1½	9	10½	9½	13	16
Sears	90	9	11	12	0	2	3
(*98½)	100	2	4½	6½	3	6½	7½
Thrn Eml	1000	49	78½	88½	2½	14½	31
(*1042)	1050	14½	47½	57½	18½	33½	54
Tomkins	220	10	18	21½	2½	7½	13
(*226)	240	1½	8½	12	14½	18½	24
TSB	240	6½	18½	23½	6	14½	18
(*240)	260	1	10½	15	20½	26	29½
Wellcome	1000	32	40½	54	25½	20½	25
(*1011)	1050	11	19½	32	60½	56½	58
Series		**Apr**	**Jul**	**Oct**	**Apr**	**Jul**	**Oct**
Glaxo	600	45½	64	73½	8½	18	30
(*630½)	650	17	35½	46	30½	40	54½
HSBC	650	31	50½	61	27	42	49½
(*666)	700	10½	30½	40½	61	72½	79½
Reuter	420	34	45½	54½	6	14	16
(*449)	460	11	24	33½	24½	32½	34½
Series		**May**	**Jul**	**Oct**	**May**	**Jul**	**Oct**
Royal Ins.	260	22	26½	31	8	11½	18
(*279)	280	10	16½	21	18½	21½	28
Series		**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sep**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sep**
Fisons	120	8	15	19	2½	8½	11
(*125)	130	3	11	14½	7½	13½	16½
Series		**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**May**	**Aug**	**Nov**
Eastern Gp	650	64	79	85½	10	23½	29½
(*695½)	700	33	49	57	28½	46½	52½
Series		**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sep**	**Mar**	**Jun**	**Sep**
Natl Pwr.	460	19	34	38	2½	14½	19½
(*475)	500	1½	12½	18½	25½	36½	41½
Scot Pwr.	330	11	23½	29½	4½	12½	19½
(*335)	360	1	10	15½	25	29½	36½

February 24, 1995 Tot: 27262 Calls: 14379 Puts: 12883 FT-SE Calls: 7406 Puts: 4665
*Underlying security price.

WALL STREET

	Feb 24 midday	Feb 23 close
AMP Inc	75¼	75½
AMR Corp	61½	61¼
AT & T	51½	51½
Abbott Labs	35¼	35½
Advanced Micro	29¼	29½
Aetna Life	53½	53½
Ahmanson (HF)	18½	18
Air Prod & Chem	48½	48½
Albertson's	30¼	30¼
Alcan Aluminm	25½	25½
Alco Standard	67¼	67½
Allied Signal	38¼	38½
Alum Co of Am	80¼	82½
Amax Gold Inc	5	5
Amerada Hess	48½	48½
Amer Brands	37	36½
Amer El Power	34½	34½
Amer Express	33½	33¼
Amer Genl Corp	31½	31¼
Amer Home Pr	71½	71½
Amer Intl	103¼	103½
Amer Stores	24½	24½
Ameritech	42½	42½
Amoco	58½	58½
Anheuser-Busch	56½	57½
Apple Computer	39½	40⅛
Archer Daniels	18½	18½
Armco	6½	6½
Armstrng Wrld	46	46½
Asarco	28½	27½
Ashland Oil	32¼	32½
Atl Richfield	108½	109¼
Auto Data Pro	62½	62½
Avery Dennison	37¼	37½
Avon Products	57	56½
Baker Hughes	19½	19¼
Baltim Gas & El	24¼	24¼
Banc One	29¼	29¼
BankAmerica	47½	47½
Bank of NY	32½	32½
Bankers Tr NY	62¼	63
Barnett Banks	44½	44½
Bausch & Lomb	32½	33½
Baxter Intl	31½	31½
Becton Dicknsn	52½	52
Bell Atlantic	53½	53½
BellSouth	59½	59½
Black & Decker	26½	26¼
Block (H&R)	36	35½
Boeing	46½	47
Boise Cascade	31½	31¼
Borden Inc	12½	12½
Bristol Myrs Sq	61½	61½
Browning Ferris	31½	32
Brunswick	19½	20¼
Burlington Nthn	56¼	56½
CBS	62	62½
CNA Financial	73½	73½
CPC Intl	53¼	53½
CSX	76¼	76¼
Campbell Soup	46¼	45½
Can Pacific	14½	14½
Cpd Cties ABC	87½	87
Carolina Pwr	27½	27½
Caterpillar	51½	53
Central & SW	24½	24½
Champion Intl	41½	41½
Chase Manhat	35½	35½
Chemical Bk	39¼	40
Chevron Corp	46½	46½
Chrysler	43¼	44½
Chubb Corp	78½	78½
Cigna Corp	75½	75½
Citicorp	44½	44½
Clorox	60	60½
Coastal Corp	28¼	29
Coca Cola	54½	54
Colgate-Palmolive	63½	62½
Columbia Gas	26	26
Compaq Comp	34½	34½
Comp Ass Int	57½	57
Conagra	33	33½
Conrail	55½	56
Cons Edison	28	28
Cons Nat Gas	36½	36½
Cooper Inds	38½	38½
Corning Inc	32¼	32½
Crown Cork	42½	42½
Dana Corp	24¼	24½
Dayton Hudson	73½	74½
Deere	76½	77½
Delta Air Lines	56½	57½
Deluxe Corp	27½	27¼
Detroit Edison	28½	29
Digital Equip	33½	34
Dillard Dept St	28	28
Disney (Walt)	53½	53½
Dominion Res	37½	38½
Donnelley (RR)	33½	33½
Dover Corp	60¼	60½
Dow Chemical	64½	64½
Dow Jones	35½	35½
Dresser	20½	21
Duke Power	39¼	39½
Dun & Brdstreet	51	50½
Du Pont	55½	55½
Eastman Kodak	50½	50½
Eaton Corp	49½	48
Emerson Elec	65½	65½
Engelhard Corp	26½	26½

	Feb 24 midday	Feb 23 close
Enron Corp	32½	32½
Entergy	22½	22½
Ethyl Corp	10½	10½
Exxon	63¼	63½
FMC Corp	58	58½
FPL Group	36	35½
Federal Express	66½	65½
Fed Nat Mtge	79½	79½
First Chicago	50½	50½
First Interstate	81½	81
First Union Rlty	7½	7½
Fleet Finl Grp	30¼	30½
Fluor Corp	48¼	48½
Ford Motor	26½	26½
GTE Corp	33½	33½
Gannett	52½	53½
Gap Inc Del	32½	33
Gen Dynamics	46½	46½
Gen Electric	54½	55½
Gen Mills	61	60½
Gen Motors	42½	42½
Gen Reinsurance	130¼	130½
Gen Signal	36½	35½
Genuine Parts	39	39
Georgia Pac	79½	78½
Gillette	78½	79½
Glaxo ADR	20	20½
Goodrich (BF)	44½	44½
Goodyear Tire	36½	36½
Grace (W&R)	45½	45½
Gtr Atl Pac Tea	19½	19½
Great Wstn Fin	18½	18½
Halliburton	36½	37
Harcourt General	36¼	37
Heinz (HJ)	39½	39½
Hercules	44	44½
Hershey Foods	49½	49½
Hewlett Packard	115½	115½
Hilton Hotels	69½	68½
Home Depot	46½	46½
Homestake Mng	15½	15½
Honeywell	36½	37
Household Intl	43½	42½
Houston Inds	38½	38½
Humana	23	23½
ITT Corp	99½	99½
Illinois Tool	44½	44½
Illinova	23½	23
INCO	28½	27½
Ingersoll Rand	32½	32½
Inland Steel	28½	28½
Intel Corp	77½	78⅛
IBM	74½	74½
Intl Flav & Fr	48½	48½
Intl Paper	77½	78
James River Va	24½	24½
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	57½	57
Kellogg	54½	54½
Kerr-McGee	50½	49½
Kimberly-Clark	51½	51½
Kmart	13½	13½
Knight-Ridder	53½	53½
Lilly (Eli)	65½	65½
Limited Inc	17½	17½
LIN Brdcstng	129½	130
Lincoln Nat	40¼	40½
Litton	36½	36½
Liz Claiborne	16½	16½
Lockheed	75½	75½
Louisiana Pac	29	29½
MCI Comm	19⅞	20
Marriott Int	30½	30½
Marsh & McLnn	84½	84½
Masco Corp	25½	25½
May Dept St	36½	36½
Maytag Corp	16½	16½
McDonalds	33½	33½
McDonnell D	56	56½
McGraw Hill	69	69½
Mead Corp	55½	55½
Medtronic	59½	58½
Mellon Bk	38½	39½
Melville Corp	32½	32½
Merck Inc	42½	42½
Merrill Lynch	40½	40½
Minnesota Mine	54	53½
Mobil Corp	86½	88
Monsanto	79	78½
Morgan (JP)	63	63
Motorola Inc	56½	56½
Natl Medical	15½	15½
Natl Semi	17½	17½
Natl Service Ind	26½	26½
Navistar Int	14½	14½
NBD Bancorp	31½	31½
NY Times A	21½	21½
Newmont Mng	35½	36½
Niag Mohawk	14½	14½
Nike B	72½	72½
NL Industries	12	11½
Noram Energy	5½	5½
Nordstrom	42½	42½
Norfolk Sthrn	66	66½
Nthn State Pwr	45½	45½
Norwest Corp	25	25
Nynex Corp	38½	38½
Occidental Pet	19½	19½
Ohio Edison	21½	21½
Oracle Systems	30½	31½
Oryx Energy Co	10½	10½

	Feb 24 midday	Feb 23 close
Owens Corning	33½	33½
PPG Industries	37¼	37½
PNC Bank	25¼	25½
Paccar Inc	43⅞	43½
Pacificorp	18½	18½
Pac Enterprises	24½	24½
Pac Gas & Elect	25½	25½
Pac Telesis	29½	29½
Pall Corp	19¼	19½
Panhandle East	21½	22
Parker Hannifin	45½	46½
Peco Energy	26½	26½
Penney (JC)	43	42½
Pennzoil	47½	47½
Pepsico	39¼	39½
Pfizer	82	82½
Phelps Dodge	55½	55½
Philip Morris	59½	59½
Phillips Pet	33	33
Pitney Bowes	33¼	34
Polaroid	29½	29½
PriceCostco	13½	13⅛
Procter & Gmbl	66½	66½
Providian	34½	34
Pub Serv E & G	29¼	29½
Quaker Oats	33½	33
Ralston Purina	47½	46½
Raychem Corp	39½	39½
Raytheon	69½	70½
Reebok Intl	36½	36½
Reynolds Metals	51½	52½
Roadway Srvcs	53⅛	53
Rockwell Intl	39½	38½
Rohm & Haas	55½	54½
Royal Dutch	113½	114½
Rubbermaid	31	31½
Safeco Corp	54⅛	54½
St Paul's Cos	49	49½
Salomon Inc	36½	36½
Santa Fe Pac	21½	11½
Sara Lee Corp	26	26½
Scecorp	16½	16½
Schering Plough	77½	77
Schlumberger	57½	56½
Scott Paper	78½	78½
Seagram	30½	30½
Sears Roebuck	48½	48½
Shell Trans	67½	68½
Sherwin Wllms	34½	34½
Skyline Corp	18½	18½
Snap-On-Tools	33¼	33½
Southern Co	20¼	20½
Sthwestern Bell	41½	41½
Sprint Corp	29¼	29½
Stanley Works	40¼	40½
Sun Company	28¼	29½
Sun Microsys	32½	33
Suntrust	54	54
Supervalu	25¼	25½
Sysco Corp	28¼	28½
TRW Inc	66½	66½
TCC Inds	2½	2½
Tandem Comp	17½	17½
Tandy Corp	46	46½
Teledyne	23½	23½
Temple Inland	49¼	50½
Tenneco	44½	44½
Texaco	64	63½
Texas Inst	77½	78½
Texas Utilities	32½	33
Textron	54½	54½
Time Warner	38½	38½
Times-Mirror A	18½	18½
Timken	35½	35½
Torchmark	42½	42½
Toys R Us	29½	29½
Transamerica	55½	55
Travelers	39	39½
Tribune	55½	55½
Tyco Labs	51½	50½
UST Inc	29½	29½
UAL	95	96
USX Marathon	16½	16½
Unicom	25½	25½
Unilever NV	121½	122
Union Camp	51½	51½
Union Carbide	28½	28½
Union Pacific	52½	53
Unisys Corp	9½	9½
USAir Group	6½	6½
USF&G Corp	14½	14½
US Life	37½	38
US West	38½	38½
United Tech	66½	66½
Unocal Corp	28½	28½
Upjohn	34½	34½
VF Corp	51½	51
WMX Tech	26½	26½
Wal-Mart Stores	23½	23½
Warner-Lambert	75½	76½
Wells Fargo	159½	159½
Westinghouse El	15½	15½
Weyerhaeuser	42½	41½
Whirlpool	54½	54½
Whitman	19½	17½
Winn Dixie	55½	55
Woolworth	15½	15½
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	46½	46
Xerox	107½	108½
Yellow Corp	21⅛	21

هكذا من الاصل

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BARCLAYS

INTEREST RATE MANAGEMENT

Gilts suffer sharp falls

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place ten business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

BANKS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
533	380½	Abbey Ntl	447	+1	4.3	15.0
314	233	Allied Irish	270	+2	5.3	10.4
278¼	171	Aus New Z	217	+3	5.4	7.8
3300	2462½	Bank Americat	3000	-31¼	..	..
247	172½	Bank Scotland	201	-1	3.3	11.3
640	487	Barclays	617	+3	3.4	15.1
319	246	Bk of Ireland	306	..	4.7	8.9
2912½	2262½	Citicorp	2787½	+37½	..	..
285½	203	Close Bros	233	..	4.0	10.5
£130½	£121½	Commerzbk	£144½	+7½	5.9	..
1296¼	993¾	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1143¾	-3¾	0.5	..
£34P.	£270¼	Deutsche Bk	£309¼	+150	2.3	..
1315¼	706¼	Espirito Santo	759¾	+53¼	10.8	..
90	57	First Nat Fin	69	..	2.7	44.0
1549¼	1152½	Fuji Bank Y	1352¼	-3¼	0.4	..
473	209	Hambros	233	+3	8.0	14.3
1117	589	HSBC	856	..	4.6	3.6
1133	578	HSBC HK	663	+3½	4.6	9.6
443	303	Joseph (L)	393	..	5.6	11.4
693	424	Kleinwort Ben	620	-1	4.4	11.8
660	519	Lloyds	575	-2	5.6	9.7
620¼	472	Nat Aust Bk	505	+6	6.8	8.6
622	421	Nat West	504	..	5.5	8.3
3300	2100	Ottoman Bank	2275	+125	6.4	6.5
79	53	Rea Bros	62	..	1.9	17.4
528	373½	Ryl Bk Scott	396	-6	4.3	11.3
1574	1050	Schroders	1513	..	7.5	13.9
1458	1043	Schroders N/V	1355	..	1.7	12.4
114	75	Singer & Fried	83	..	4.7	10.7
368¼	223	Stand Chart	256	-1	3.1	8.8
291	197	TSB	240	..	4.7	10.2
1012	569	Warburg SG	718	-3	3.8	13.2
£105	£61.2¼	Wells Fargo	£100¾	-12½	2.9	..
260	194	Westpac	230¼	+2	2.4	..
390	303	Wintrust	220	..	6.0	14.7

BREWERIES

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1025	148	Ascot Hldgs	151	-1	..	..
619	485	Bass	508	-5	5.2	12.6
290	242	Boddington	242	-4	4.3	13.0
185	168	Burtonwd Brwt	171	..	3.7	14.3
181	142	Eldridge P 'A'	166	..	3.1	20.0
66	46¼	Fosters Brewing	55	..	5.1	14.0
493	335	Fullr Sm 'A'	340	..	2.9	14.1
511	339	Greenalls Grp†	411	-4	4.0	13.5
584	452	Greene King	469	-2	3.5	12.8
257	239	Hardy Hanson	261	..	4.5	12.7
170	135	Heavitree	156	..	3.6	15.0
3773	3125	Holt J	3380	-8	1.8	18.6
246	195	Mansfield	234	..	2.5	14.3
314	256	Marston Thmp	275	-2	2.8	13.4
545	435	Morland	445	..	3.0	13.4
10¼	6¼	Paramount	7	..	4.4	16.4
329	203	Regent Inns	325	-1	2.2	18.4
1665½	1050	SA Breweries	1481¼	-6¼	1.9	23.6
591	477	Scot & New	508	-1	4.3	14.5
306	212	Vaux Group	217	-1	5.7	12.2
491	324½	Wetherspoon JD	468	+4	1.8	25.8
617	494	Whitbread	539	..	4.4	14.7
580	486	Wolvrhmptn D	489	-2	3.6	12.7
208	148	Yates Bros	200	..	2.4	15.8
535	450	Young 'A'	460	..	4.1	19.5

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
205	130	Abbey	130	..	5.0	9.5
220	143	Allen	158	..	4.4	14.8
164	56	Amec	61	+2	6.1	35.2
167	47	Andrews Sykes	166	-1	..	..
482	333	Ashtead	421	..	1.7	18.0
171	97½	Avonside	99	..	5.6	11.6
41	35	Bailey (Ben) Con	35	..	2.5	21.4
85	18½	Barcam	41	..	..	..
242	139	Barratt Devs	165	+4	4.5	12.8
166	132	Beazer Homes	134	+3	5.0	10.5
304	179	Bellway	195	-2	4.5	11.6
57	31	Belwinch	34	-1	0.7	18.1
573	315	Berkeley Gp	329	+6	2.2	10.5
215	112	Bett Bros	178	..	3.2	5.5
355	210	Bovis Homes	220	-3	3.8	10.6
131	[illegible]	Brancon Hire	115	..	1.6	..
235	130	Br Elec & Eng	130	..	7.8	17.6
197½	105	Bryant	112	+1	5.6	10.6
145¼	92	CALA	105	..	3.3	14.5
54	31	Carroll & Ams	34	..	..	..
62	44	Clarke T	49	..	3.2	41.6
41	17	Costain	22	..	..	..
185	97	Countryside	99	..	5.5	12.2
129	73	Crest Nicholson	77½	-½	3.3	*
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]				

BUILDING MATERIALS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
27	12	Aberglen	12	..	5.2	20.3
343	235	Alumasc	338	..	2.5	16.8
65¼	43¼	Amberley Gp	50	..	3.1	25.7
385	274	BPB Inc	315	2	3.5	16.2
142	93	Baggeridge Brk	125	..	3.1	12.9
63	30	Barbica	31½	..	7.9	..
93	58	Bloorite	68	..	1.7	..
331	259	Blue Circle	282	-2	5.4	18.6
117	72	Breedon PLC	74	..	7.8	21.2
154	128	Br Dredging	134	..	6.5	12.9
409	321	CRH	361	+2	2.7	16.3
61	31	Cakebread Rby	41	..	..	4.4
278	198	Cape	208	..	6.6	13.2
455	224	Caradon	235	-5	4.9	15.0
215½	114	Caradon pf	116½	-1½	7.8	..
62	46	Chieftain Gp	54	..	8.1	10.8
134	89	Dyson (J&J)†	107	..	4.1	16.1
97	63	Dyson 'A'†	64	..	6.8	9.6
13½	4½	Eclipse Blinds	12½	..	..	..
350	273	Epwin	280	..	3.5	16.6
82	57	Erith	62	..	5.9	34.9
218	160	Graham Grp	172	..	3.2	14.3
399	312	Halstead (J)	317	..	3.0	14.6
511	282	Hepworth	285	..	6.5	16.2
88	46	Hewetson†	80	..	2.3	13.9
152¼	63¼	Hewitt (J)▲	85	..	2.6	..
473	247	Heywd Wms	255	-5	6.6	14.4
100	67	Ibstock	85	+1	1.5	..
294	149	Johnston	269	..	2.1	32.3
170	94	Lilleshall	97	..	6.1	10.2
213½	121	Marley	123	+1	4.3	14.6
155	124	Marshalls†	127	-2	4.4	11.3
569	314	Meyer Intl	316	..	4.3	12.3
196	146	Newman Tnks	163	-1	4.9	20.5
212½	76	Norcros	79	..	11.1	15.0
20	9	Phoenix Timber	14	..	..	..
208	143	Pilkington	165½	-3	3.0	31.9
185	125	Polypipe	126	..	2.3	14.5
1079	805	RMC Gp	914	-8	2.9	18.9
40	9	Ramus	9	..	..	..
640	415	Redland	430	-7	7.3	19.9
109	70	Rostest	107	..	5.0	..
185½	102½	Rugby Group	109	..	4.0	13.7
103	62	Russell (A)	90	..	3.1	18.5
288	222	SIG	235	..	3.0	18.8
21	16	SWP	18	..	1.4	25.1
200	156	Sharpe & Fisher	175	..	3.1	12.8
81½	36	Sprong Rand	38	-½	1.6	..
266	105½	Tarmac	110	+1½	8.2	..
220	155	Tilon	155	..	3.6	12.5
370	274	Travis Perkins	285	-2	3.6	17.6
28	21	Tudor	28	..	1.1	..
54	33	Unigroup	35	..	..	..
63	33	Waterhouse	38	-5	..	..
129	83	Wickes	98	+1	2.3	17.5
487½	351	Wolseley†	359	-1	2.9	14.1

BUSINESS SERVICES

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
3¼	1½	Anglo Utd	1½	..	..	..
110	68	App Hldg	70	..	..	..
165	107	Attwoods	118	..	5.3	..
11	6¼	Bailey (CH)	7¼	..	..	..
49	30	Black Arrow	43	..	9.0	6.9
124	70	Br Bloodstock	79	..	..	70.9
13	5¼	Card Gp	5¼	..	..	15.9
10½	4¼	Chemex†	6	..	2.1	18.8
157	109	Cosalt	141	..	7.1	8.5
237	188	Fiolart	225	-2	1.1	19.3
50	28	Headway	30	..	2.9	23.3
292	234	Hazelock	257	..	3.8	12.7
248	152	Leigh	152½	..	6.4	14.1
274	214	Nobo Gpt	227	..	3.4	14.7
310	207	Photo-Me†	227	..	2.6	22.0
60	38	Plant & Gen	54	-1	4.1	*
12½	2½	Porth Group	2½	..	..	..
51½	5¼	Rodime	9	..	..	..
130	75	Shanks & McEwan	75	..	3.5	..
244	165	Sinclair (Wm)	166	..	5.4	12.7
700	319	Waste Mgt Intl	328	+2	..	*

CHEMICALS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
156½	112	Allied Colloids	112	-1	2.7	15.8
790	705	Amber Ind	783	+3	3.4	15.5
£141½	£106½	BASF DM	£140¼	+68¼	3.5	..
767	637	BOC	709	-3	4.4	17.0
365¼	236	BTP	249	+6	5.5	14.1
£160¼	£129¼	Bayer DM50	£154¼	+75	3.0	..
171	97	Blagden	111	..	1.7	51.9
131	98	Brent Chems	104	-1	4.8	..
309	214	Br Vita	214	..	4.4	15.9
45	18	Cambridge Iso	35	..	..	..
199	153	Canning (W)	194	..	4.7	32.8
580	401	Courtaulds	420	-2	4.4	28.5
389	327	Croda	332	-3	3.2	14.3
143	95	Doeflex	138	..	4.6	12.9
79	33¼	Euro Colour▲	77	..	2.8	22.3
149	110	Gibbon©	118	..	5.8	10.9
223	108	Hickson	129	..	7.8	11.6
£153½	£108¼	Hoechst	£140¼	+68¼	2.7	..
250	153¼	Holliday Chem	206	..	2.7	16.8
868	692	ICI	692	-23	5.1	31.1
191½	97¼	Kalon	103	..	5.3	9.8
843	620	Laporte	639	..	4.1	16.2
95	48	MTM	84	..	2.3	..
405	290	Manders	314	..	4.0	15.2
127	100	McLeod Russel	114	..	6.8	12.4
128	37	Metrotect	38	..	11.3	5.1
679½	358¼	Molecular?	466¼	+24¼	4.1	22.1
349	265	Porvair†	300	..	2.0	..
272	186	Scapa	191	+7	3.9	15.5
66	18	Sutcliffe Speakt	16	-1	5.5	9.5
852½	666	Takeda Chem	721¼	-8¼	1.3	9.4
490	326	Wardle Storeys	350	..	6.2	19.5
220	186	Wellington Hdg	188	..	3.4	18.0
823	570	Wolstenholme R	773	..	3.1	16.1
483	334	Yorks Chem	348	..	1.1	*
336	257	Yule Catto	258	..	3.2	19.6

DISTRIBUTORS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
127	95	ABI Leis	95	..	5.3	10.9
317	248	Acal	304	-3	2.9	16.5
595	253	Adam & Harvey	555	..	3.5	7.0
31	19	Alexanders	19	..	6.6	..
175	68	Appleyard	91	..	8.0	16.1
6	3¼	Ass Br Eng	4¼	..	1.5	30.3
578	495	BSS Group	530	..	4.3	18.7
25½	17	Bearing Power	22	..	5.7	11.3
405	245	Bletchley Mtr	248	..	5.3	10.2
40	28	Bogod 'A'	28	..	3.1	11.8
370	288	Brammer	348	+1	4.7	19.3
31	12	Bridgend Gp	14	+½	1.8	72.8
99	78	Br Fittings	94	..	3.0	..
71	40	Brown & Tawse	41	..	..	..
57	35	Burndene	38	..	6.3	..
465	245	Caffyns	258	..	5.6	42.4
39	12	Casket Plc	16	-½	8.6	8.9
130	71	Central Mtrt	71	..	4.8	47.3
51	32½	Cook (DC)	36	..	4.0	11.0
342½	197½	Cowie	229	+4½	5.0	11.4
192½	127	Dag Motors	134	..	6.1	15.4
683	446	Dennans Eft	588	..	1.4	14.5
628	414½	Diploma	429	-2	3.9	15.1
589	443	Electrocomponents	500	-4	2.6	20.5
175	133	Electron House	158	..	2.8	13.3
283	225	Ellis & Everard	251	..	3.9	18.7
234	193	Eurodollar	193	..	5.5	15.1
173	99	European Mtr	99	..	5.7	10.8
539½	373	Evans Halshaw	373	-3	4.8	11.7
666	498½	Farnell Elect	546	-6½	1.8	22.4
78	50	Fife Indmar	55	..	6.2	8.1
34	15	Gardiner	20½	..	5.0	..
46	19	Glenchewton	20	..	..	22.1
90	60	Greenups	71	..	3.5	21.5
76	59	Hallam Hldgs	62	..	..	48.4
172	122	Harris (Philip)	168	..	5.1	14.7
342½	258	Heatys	258	..	3.6	13.9
191	88	Holders Tech	93	..	8.1	10.1
138	100	ISA Intl	100	-1	2.1	12.5
609	295	Inchcape	296	-4	6.3	9.8
68	35	Jacks (Wm)	58	..	..	13.4
184	142	Kwik-Fit	146	..	3.4	16.7
572	277	Lex Service	281	..	6.0	10.8
282	162	Lookers	173	..	5.6	9.3
20	14	Malaya Grp	14	..	2.2	..
9	3¼	Mclntosh ⊙	7¼	..	..	..
440	279	Norton	370	..	0.8	16.5
100	47	Normanbee	91	..	1.8	38.6
175	152	PCT	152	..	6.1	14.7
310	228	Pendragon	228	..	4.1	15.0
238	130	Perry Gp	130	..	6.7	7.1
218	126	Quicks Group	130	..	5.0	13.7
166	97	REA	165	..	4.5	34.1
5¼	2¼	Reece	2¼	..	..	..
24	4	Ross Gp	4	..	6.2	..
42	32½	SEP Indt	40	..	3.3	*
44	31	TLS Range	41	-1	3.0	18.5
265	215	Time Products	227	..	4.8	15.3
221	151	Vardy (Reg)	170	+1	3.9	12.5
335	240	Wholesale Ftgs	243	..	6.1	21.4
30½	13½	Wilc Gp	15½	..	4.0	8.7
74½	37¼	Wilshaw	68½	..	1.2	23.1
69	40	Wyko†	65	..	2.1	22.1
96	61	Young (H)	75	..	6.0	14.0

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
202	148	Aowest	156	..	6.0	15.9
380	199½	Antofagasta	295	-5	1.5	33.9
62	44	Armour	44	..	5.3	8.1
997	773½	Broken Hill	862	+9	2.4	18.5
401	373	BTR	315¼	-½	5.0	16.7
570	372	BAT	424	-2	6.1	11.1
570½	120¼	Benford Intl♥	227	-2	0.3	60.1
91	49	Bibby (J)	82	..	4.6	15.2
57½	44	Brierley Inv	46½	+1½	9.0	3.6
835	636¼	Charter	757	-7	3.8	22.2
285	215	Cookson	217	-1	3.7	19.6
302	217½	Hanson	237½	-4½	6.3	14.8
229	135	Hanson Crdid	145	..	7.8	16.5
365¼	209¼	Hutch Whamp	260¼	+7	2.1	18.7
710	409½	Jardine Math	548¼	+11¼	2.7	12.6
36	27½	Jeanetti (T)	29	..	4.3	28.8
179½	124½	Lonrho	151½	+½	3.7	27.8
44	16	Porter Chadburn	40	+1	..	..
685¼	456	Powell Duffryn	458	-2	6.8	12.9
154	118¼	Pooney	124	..	7.6	14.1
485	337	Rotherams	452	-2	5.3	21.9
34¼	9¼	Saltire	14	..	..	5.4
163¼	105	Sime Darby	140	+7	3.1	17.8
367	164	Staveley	186	..	6.4	51.1
230	148	Suter	154	..	7.5	14.8
283	220	TI Group	233	..	2.4	..
283	202	Tomkins	227	..	4.3	14.6
134	60¼	Trafalgar Hs	64	-½	2.0	..
440	245	Vickers	295	..	6.3	..
324	246½	Wassall	259	-1	1.7	22.2
13½	9¼	Widney	9¼	..	2.6	15.1
414½	229	Williams Hldg	327	+2	5.0	20.2

ELECTRICITY

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
894½	610½	East Midlands	736	-1	4.7	30.9
866	566	Eastern Grp	637	+1	4.4	15.3
955	534	London Elec	717	-1	4.3	11.0
855	635	Manweb	797	+9	4.3	9.5
845½	547	Midlands Elect	732	+7	4.2	11.2
520	[illegible]	National Power	475	-7	4.1	13.0
1132	599	Northern Elec	1052	+5	3.9	10.9
427	329	[illegible]	391	-2	4.2	9.6
967	597	Norweb	799	-2	3.8	9.6
602	442	PowerGen	513	-6	3.7	11.1
477	317	Hydro-Elect	373	-4	5.0	10.2
429	319	Scottish Power	335	+3	4.8	10.6
490	299	Seeboard	431	+9	3.6	11.8
912	[illegible]	Sth Wales	823	+4	4.4	11.2
929	551	Sth Western	818	+13	3.9	10.8
537	540	Southern Elect	735	-1	4.1	10.7
959	604½	Yorkshire Elec	832	+12	4.2	14.2

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
103	63	Acorn Comp	83½	..	..	..
653	477	Admiral	635	..	1.3	19.5
205	165	Alba	203	+2	3.2	15.1
259	135¼	Amstrad	159½	+6	2.0	..
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]				
2175	1400	Philips Lmp ov	2050	-9¼	2.3	..
359	293	Pilco	301	..	2.0	19.1
344	275	Pilco 'A' Vig	281	..	2.0	18.0
140	70	Plasmec	118	..	4.0	..
129	90	Pressac	101	-2	3.5	19.4
43¼	17¼	Prestwick	35	..	..	..
303	181	Psion	249	..	1.5	17.4
261	187	Racal Elect	226	-2	2.5	18.6
53	33	Radamec	45	..	5.3	12.3
311	202¼	Rodiora	204	..	2.8	14.9
89	15	Scantronic	18	..	..	..
49	34	Silverlines	41	..	2.5	24.3
94	53	Soundtracks	55	..	5.8	..
104	38	Siro Bust	64	-1	7.3	4.2
19	9	TDS Circuits	9¼	..	..	..
3225	2265¼	TDK	2634¼	-9¼	1.2	..
447	174¼	Tadpole Tech	238	-7	..	..
170	68	Telemetrix	89	-3	1.8	8.8
101	51	TGI	89	..	3.2	18.6
385	197	Telspec	379	+8	0.8	45.8
246	133	Thorpe FW	233	-1	1.7	17.1
142	117	TLG	140	..	3.1	20.1
43	22	Total Systems	31	..	..	32.2
303	215	Tunstal	238	..	2.0	16.0
391	256	Unitech†	355	..	2.4	17.9
15¼	8	Verity	9¼	+..	..	25.5
483	370	Volex	373	..	6.1	15.6
200	60	Wakebourne	68	..	..	..
168	93	Whitecroft	153	..	2.7	17.9

ENGINEERING

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
186	119	AIM†	186	+1	3.0	..
138	47¼	APV	62	..	8.9	..
216	148¼	ASW	188	..	4.8	..
126	20¼	Aero Humble	34	..	13.7	3.4
21½	14	Aerospace Engt	18½	..	5.7	..
73	27¼	Alvis†	46	..	2.7	..
175	134	Ash & Lacy	135½	..	5.9	14.0
553	480	Atlas Equip	553	..	5.0	18.4
125	66	Ayrshire Metal	120	..	1.6	14.7
40¼	25	Babcock	29	..	..	..
176	130	BWI	130	..	6.4	19.9
98	64	Baynes (Charles)	78	+1	2.8	20.0
45	23	Beauford	37	..	..	..
226	110	Billam (J)	117	..	5.7	7.3
329	262	Bodycote	314	..	2.1	21.4
81	43	Booth Inds	79	-1	..	..
20	13¼	Bramley†	14¼	..	4.6	13.7
171	120	Bridon	148	..	3.4	..
578¼	386¼	Br Aerospace	464¼	-3½	2.4	40.8
172¼	121½	Br Steel	160½	-1½	2.7	19.4
125	86¼	Brassgrove Indt	90	..	6.3	15.1
18¼	9¼	Brooks Toolt	12¼	..	1.0	..
51	24¼	Brunel	45¼	+½	..	..
186	135	Bullough†	153	+1	4.9	15.8
80	55	Bustild	74	..	3.1	31.8
22	14	CI Group	16	..	2.3	..
293	245	Cardo Engt	246	..	5.3	14.9
159	110	Castings	152	..	2.3	18.7
150	120	Chamberlin Hill	150	..	5.6	9.5
360	272	Chemring	334	+4	3.7	15.7
296½	177	Clyde Blowers	178	..	3.2	..
337	235	Cobham	308	..	3.2	15.4
688	403	Cohen (A)	508	..	0.8	..
263	178	Concentric	183	..	4.2	14.4
310	228	Cook (Wm)	226	-2	4.1	10.6
296	198	David Brown	215	..	3.8	15.2
97	68	Dobson Park†	89	..	6.8	12.8
442	343	BS	344	-1	4.5	13.8
101	69	Elliott (B)	92	..	2.7	13.8
118	80	Expamet	90	..	3.6	63.8
212	136¼	FKI	138	..	3.8	16.0
148	109	Fenner	132	..	1.4	61.4
45	17	Ferrom	17	..	..	..
88	73	GEI Intl	88	..	3.6	16.1
134	91	Glarton Eng	121	..	4.8	..
404	285	Glynwed	305	+5	4.8	17.9
14½	10	Graystone	12	..	2.5	10.1
85	61	Hadleigh Macln	61	..	4.1	15.8
186	90	Hadleigh	147	-1	2.1	16.7
320	140	Hall Eng	142	..	7.1	11.1
255	185½	Halma	186	..	1.7	20.1
73	47	Hampson Indt	52	..	4.8	9.7
42	25	Hay (Norman)	29	..	..	..
184½	122	Hill & Smith†	125	..	6.2	..
63	38	Hopkinsons	58	..	2.8	..
41	27	How Gp	35	..	2.7	..
103	76	Howden	78	..	4.1	12.7
265	157	Hunting	170	..	7.4	24.3
379	288	IMI	310	+3	4.1	26.3
51	32¼	Johnson & FB	42½	..	..	..
628	488	Johnson Mattk	514	-16	3.0	19.2
32	25	Jones Stopman	29	..	..	..
335	280	Kelsey Indt	317	..	3.1	..
273	205	Lintel	273	..	3.2	17.8

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
66	31	AAF Inds	33	..	..	..
160	108	Airflow Stream	157	..	3.2	15.4
639	440	Avon Rubber	446	+1	4.6	16.1
236	173	BBA	187	..	3.0	..
86½	51	BSG	51	..	7.8	31.9
18½	8½	Bertcon Group	9½	-1	4.7	12.9
306	180	Bostrom	298	..	2.5	17.0
38½	17	Boustead†	24	..	5.2	*
22	10¼	Cawdale	10¼	..	1.7	10.9
356	275	ERF	356	..	1.4	..
400	296	First Techt	399	..	1.7	23.0
660	510¼	GKN	565	-4	4.5	33.1
4387½	2337½	General Mtrt	2675	+50	1.9	..
1239	918½	Honda Motor	988¼	-7¼	0.5	..
432¼	306	Laird	308	+1	4.4	14.9
350	233	Loades	345	..	..	..
239	158	Lucas	173½	-1½	5.0	..
64	50	Mayflower	57	-1	3.1	23.2
124	61	Midstates	62	..	..	8.6
178	149	Syltone	162	+2½	3.9	17.9
261	140	T & N	159	-1	8.5	13.9
333	263	Trinity Hldgs	328	..	2.6	23.7

FOOD MANUFACTURERS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
611	499	AB Foodt	585	-4	3.4	12.1
368	223	Acatos & Hutch	253	+4	4.4	9.6
74	40	Albert Fisher	43	-1	10.8	12.7
270	205	Banks (S C)	205	..	6.0	9.4
397	335	Barr (AG)†	368	..	2.6	*
72	15	Bensons Crsp	16	..	..	..
481	378	Booker	386	+2	7.1	14.2
56½	42¼	Borthwick	43	..	3.8	20.4
212	156	CPL Aromas	195	..	1.9	18.6
524	370	Cadbury-Schw♥	427	+2	4.6	14.1
367	143	Carrs Milling	263	..	2.9	11.9
167	130	Cranswick	165	+2	6.3	12.0
154	90	Daleport	116	..	2.2	..
543	359	Dalgety	425	-1	6.5	11.6
81	49	Daniels S	49	..	0.8	..
291	210	Devro	211	..	3.7	14.2
101	52	Everest	85	..	3.7	31.9
2½	¼	Farmglow	2	..	..	..
85	63	Finlay (James)	68	..	7.6	9.2
20½	12	Global	12½	..	5.0	11.4
77	38	Grand Central	50	..	..	..
433	325	Greencore†	433	..	3.0	11.4
194	102	Hazlewood Fds	109	-1	7.7	6.8
196½	151	Hillsdown	175	+2	6.3	12.5
28	16	Hollicom	24½	..	..	..
111	69	JLI Group	72	..	8.4	10.1
403	313	Linton Park	335	+1	6.5	9.6
127	85	Matthews (B)	106	-1	3.2	12.7
181	156	Main ED & F	158	..	6.8	8.7
246	205	Nichols (JN)	233	..	4.1	15.0
271½	193	Nth Foodst	207	+1	5.3	10.6
31	9	Nutrobun Fn	10	-½	..	19.4
46	18	Pascoe's	18	..	..	..
81	62	Perkins Food	64	..	8.7	10.7
58	75	Sentry Farm	83	..	3.2	8.9
122	62	Sims Food	83	..	14.9	..
467½	392	Tate & Lyle	433	-2	4.2	8.9
240	145	Treat	240	..	2.4	..
454½	317	Unigate	348	-4	6.3	9.5
1245	955	Unilever	1182	+7	2.9	..
8116¼	6496¼	Unilever (NV)	7690¼	+59¼	3.1	..
338	295	Utd Biscuits	344	-2	5.6	28.1
49	33	West Trust†	35½	..	8.8	24.9
133	85	Yorkshire Food	86	..	4.8	10.2

HEALTHCARE

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
544	280	AAH†	309	+3	7.2	10.8
1141	770	Amersham	829	-9	2.4	17.4
81	43	Anagen	47	..	..	..
297¼	195	Assoc. Nursg	195	..	1.4	11.4
393	243	Bespak	320	-3	4.0	16.4
10	5	Care UK	7	..	..	..
115	60	Celsis	73	..	..	..
47	34	Cortecs	34	..	..	..
297	214	Community H	215	..	4.6	12.4
44	29	CroscCare	34	..	2.8	..
146	96	Emvromed	102	..	2.0	13.0
110	78	Fetans Group	78	-1	3.6	10.8
171	134	Goldsborough†	150	..	2.8	13.4
15½	9¼	Greenacre	9¼	..	4.4	12.9
513	402	Huntgh Tec	508	..	1.3	23.7
165	39	Idercare Gp	52	..	8.4	9.4
305	270	Isotron	270	..	2.2	15.9
171	107	Life Sciences	135	..	3.8	13.4
152¼	74	Lon Intl	97	+2	..	..
80	42	Nestor-BNA	43	..	9.2	10.7
3	1	Premier Health	1	..	..	..
330	227	Quality Caret	235	..	2.4	11.6
210	118	Scholl	139	+3	5.8	13.3
363	275¼	Seton Health	345	+2	2.5	17.6
85	44	Shield Diag	45	-1	..	..
169¼	136¼	Smith & Neph	161	+½	3.9	17.8
21	6	Specialeyes	8	..	..	..
232	187	Takare	187	-1	1.4	16.3
313	245	UniChem	248	+1	3.6	13.2
400	293	West Hlthcare	303	..	2.0	15.8

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
312	201	Alspaug	203	..	3.0	13.1
193	116	BLP Group	125	..	1.0	34.3
39	26	Bilston Battsea	31	..	..	..
167	84	Crowll Plc 'A'	84	..	8.5	18.8
285	163	Creighton Nt	163	..	5.9	11.5
165	133	Derby Groupt	144	..	2.7	15.6
168	113	Eastell	135	..	3.9	..
14	4¼	Lowthean	4¼	-¼	5.9	..
231	161	Maybom	181	..	4.6	10.7
335	245	Orifaine Intl	253	..	5.3	11.5
430	230	Osborne & Little	399	..	2.3	12.1
625	420	Paterson Zch	422	..	4.1	12.2
585	380	Paterson Zch 'A'	383	..	4.5	11.1
714¼	528	Reckitt Colm	626	-2	3.6	15.9
291	211	Relyon	261	..	2.6	47.6
378	183	Silentnight	187	..	5.3	11.7
46	27½	Stoddard	30	..	6.7	11.3
330	195	Tomkinsons†	195	..	7.4	..
160	125	Victoria Carpet	125	..	4.5	7.1
110¼	94¼	Walker Greenbk	106	..	4.2	19.5
63	44	Winlord Widged	58	..	..	46.0
155	155	Wood (Arthur)	155	..	2.4	31.2

INSURANCE

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1493¼	937½	Alex & Alext	1358¼	+12¼	4.9	..
2043¼	1587¼	Am Genl	2000	+37¼	3.9	..
112	80	Angerstein	81	..	3.1	66.8
86	47	Archert	62	..	2.0	..
165	85	Bankstock†	92	..	7.7	10.4
550	370	Britannic	505	+71	3.2	..
117	86	CLM Insurt	87	..	3.0	*
701½	473	Cmcl Union	517	-8	6.1	19.5
108	86	Delian	89	..	2.1	..
1950	1645	Darr & Gen	1650	..	2.1	12.7
221½	145	FBD IE	169½	+½	4.1	7.9
194	140	Fenchurch Grp†	152	-½	6.6	10.1
114	89	Finsbury Under	90½	..	2.7	58.0
757	491	Gen Accident	544	+8	6.4	8.8
247	160½	GRE	178	-1	6.0	..
105	80	HCG Lloyds	86	..	1.9	72.5
457	211	Heath C E	245	..	8.2	..
245½	177½	Hibernian IE	216½	+2½	4.5	8.2
114	86	Hiscox Select	103	..	1.8	..
323	238½	Independent	283	+5	3.8	7.7
241	178	Irish Life	185	+2	6.3	17.3
203	118	JIB Group	122	..	7.7	11.2
103	100	Kiln Capital	101	..	5.0	..
547	407	Legal & Gen	447	+6	5.7	17.8
1568¼	965¼	Liberty Life	1421¼	+9¼	7.3	5.5
119	91	London Ins Mkt	97½	+½	2.6	34.0
210	145	Lloyd Thomp	153	..	6.4	10.1
471	313	Lloyds Abbey†	349	-2	7.0	11.7
233	159	Lombard Ins†	233	..	4.1	22.3
443	282	London & Man	324	-2	6.2	16.1
119	91	London Ins Mkt	97½	+½	2.6	34.0
235	146	Lowndes Lmb	163	..	5.9	10.1
5893¼	4531¼	Marsh McLn	5300	+75	3.5	..
110	80	Mactherst	82	..	..	..
188	147	Nelson Hurst	173	..	4.0	17.3
106	74	New London Capt	75	..	1.7	..
51	41	Ockham	42	..	8.9	*
129¼	100	Orial	102	..	6.1	*
99	68	Premium Trust	88	..	3.7	..
124	96	Premium Under	99	..	..	..
385	271	Prudential	308	+9	5.5	13.3
83	16	PWS†	18	..	4.2	..
404	239	Refuge	322	+39	4.5	23.7
350	232½	Royal	279	-4	5.5	5.1
222	138	Sedgwick	162	+1	5.1	14.6
155	104	Steel Burrill	118	..	9.5	..
418	281	Sun Alliance	313	-2	6.0	8.7
107	78	Syndicate Cap	79	..	2.0	62.2
96	51	Trade Indemnity	67	..	1.7	14.9
464	302	Transatlantic	338	+3	4.4	30.6
673	432	Utd Friendly	605	+92	3.5	31.1
245	139	Willis Corroon	143	-1	5.8	16.9
38	19	Windsort	20	..	3.1	6.7

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
360	280	3i	357	..	2.6	..
106¼	63	Abtrust Emerg	67	+¼	0.4	..
100	76	Abtrust High Inc	78½	..	9.2	..
210	182	Abtrust N Dawn	197	+3	0.6	..
2058	1678	Alliance	1755	-6	3.4	..
293	239	American Trust	258	..	2.6	..
479	393	Angle & O'seas	403	..	2.3	..
196	125	Baillie Gifford SH	125	-3	..	..
124	105	Kiwi Eml	114	..	..	..
88½	73	Kiwi Emr Pnf	76½	-½	1.3	..
49	22¼	Kiwi Euro Wts	24¼	..	..	..
116	79	Kiwi H Incl	82	..	12.2	..
272½	219	Kiwi O'seas	224	..	1.9	..
165	118	Kiwi Smlr	118	..	3.3	..
201	86¼	Latin American	92¼	+3	..	..
826	672	Law Debenture	734	..	3.3	..
129	93	Lazard H Inc	89	..	8.1	..
97	79	Lloyds Sm Cap	79	..	..	..
35	28	Lloyds Sm Div	28	..	15.8	..
129	106	Lloyds Sm Pkg	106	..	4.2	..
174	141	Lon St Lawrence	164	..	4.8	..
108	78¼	Lon Smaller Co's	81	..	4.9	..
334	265	Lowland	290	..	4.0	..
1440¼	887¼	Lydenburg	1250	..	1.8	..
620	495	M&G 2nd Dual Cap	528	-2	..	..
151	115	M&G 2nd Dual In	116	..	25.8	..
2773	2440	M&G Dual Cap	2578	-2	..	..
353	243	M&G Dual Incl	245	..	..	..
77	54	M&G Inc Geared	63¼	..	9.7	..
34½	25¼	M&G Inc Inv Tst Cap	27	..	..	..
45	35¼	M&G Inc Inv Tst Inc	36¼	..	16.8	..
137	117	M&G Inc Package	119	..	5.2	..
59	50	M&G Inc Zero Div	56	-½	..	..
39½	27¼	M&G Rec Cap	28¼	..	..	..
72½	57	M&G Rec Geared	57½	..	8.4	..
37½	28	M&G Rec Inc	29	..	16.7	..
151	128	M&G Rec Pacge	129	..	3.8	..
80½	68	M&G Rec Zero Div	74½	-½	..	..
128	99	M Curtis Euro	103	..	0.4	..
180	119	M Curtis Pac	128	..	0.3	..
227	188	Majedie	188	..	3.5	..
57	44	Marston	57	..	..	..
324	237	Merchants†	248	-2	5.6	..
90	79½	Mercury Euro Pv	81½	-½	0.9	..
49	25½	Mercury Eu Wt	27	+½	..	..
125	85	Mercury World	88	+1	..	..
52½	22	Mercury Wld Wts	22	..	..	..
595	482	Monks Inv Tst	503	..	1.7	..
158	126	Morg Grn Inc	130	..	4.6	..
64	39	Morg Wts	44	..	..	..
111	57	Morg Lan Amer	60½	+2	..	..
65	26	Morg Wts	29½	+1	..	..
148	104	Murray Ent	112	..	2.4	..
92	78	Murray Emg Eco	81	+1	..	..
68	54	Murray Emf	57½	..	0.8	..
393	306	Murray Income	320	-2	4.7	..
219	172	Bankerst	177	-1	2.8	..
75¼	33½	Baring Em Eu	36¼	+½	0.3	..
381	307	Baring Tribne	315	-2	2.7	*
248	198	Berry Starq	221	..	1.3	..
91¼	85	Br Assets	88	..	6.2	..
98	85	Br Empire Sec	85½	..	1.4	..
46	25	Br Empire Wts	28	-1	..	..
234	188	Br Inv	203	..	3.0	..
105½	63¼	Brazilian	88¼	+6¼	0.4	..
272	215	Brunnert	215	-1	3.2	..
161	117	BZW Conv	130½	..	7.5	..
363	310	Candover	349	..	4.0	..
65	41	Central Euro Grth	41	..	..	..
271	144	China & Eastern	160	+1	2.8	..
223	179	Contl Asset	180	..	2.1	..
95	76	Daras Inv Inct	76	..	13.1	..
338	268	Derby Cap	293	-2	..	..
173	147	Derby Inct	156	..	13.5	..
100	58	Drayton Blue	58	..	18.1	..
111	84	Dryin Eng Intl	94	+1	1.1	..
156	122	Dryin Far East	132½	-½	0.6	..
784	613	Dunedin Inc G	631	+1	5.2	..
100	79	Dunedin Japan	79½	-1	..	..
341	292	Dunedin Smlr	300	..	3.8	..
80	25	Dunedin Wts	26½	-3	..	..
827	697	Dunedin Wwde	701	-1	1.7	..
122	82¼	Edin Dragon	93¼	-¼	..	..
53¼	28½	Edinburgh Inca	29	+½	0.2	..
360	281	Edinburgh	291	-1	3.8	..
179	134	EFM Japan	135	-2	..	..
354	286	Electra Inv	317	+1	2.9	..
220	183	Electric Gen	185	-1	2.2	..
201	169	Eng & Caledon†	179	..	2.8	..
127	106	Engtch Scot	110	..	..	..
345	273	European Asset	285	-1	2.1	..
174	145	Fidity Euro Val	156½	..	0.2	..
103½	68¼	Finsbury Jap Val	69	-1	..	..
172	146	Finsbury 'A'	154	..	2.4	..
86	65	First Spanish	65½	..	0.5	..
383	367	Fleming Amert	288	..	0.7	..
145	51½	Fleming Chinese	62¼	+¼	1.0	..
92	22	Fleming Ch Wts	33	+1	..	..
267	196	Fleming Clavert	202	-1	3.5	..
385	293	Fleming Cont	299½	-½	0.9	..
210½	134	Fleming Em Mkts	137¼	-½	..	..
264	190	Fleming Entpl	202½	..	3.0	..
459	278½	Fleming F East	308	+½	0.6	..
422	338	Fleming Fledg	339	..	1.1	..
128	88	Fleming Hi Inct	94	..	5.9	..
109	68	Fleming Indian	70¼	+1½	1.6	..
64	33	Fleming In Wts	41	+1	..	..
52¼	30	Fleming Intl	34	..	14.9	..
284	220	Fleming Japan	224	-4	..	..
347	262	Fleming Merc	268	..	3.1	..
94	81	Fleming Nat Res	81	..	..	..
347¼	373	Fleming Oseast	279	-2	1.9	..
155½	124	Foreign & Col	130	-1	1.7	..
106	93	For & Col Inc Grth	94	..	2.8	..
148	98	Fmn Emg Mkts	102	+1	..	..
77	64¼	Fmn Enterprise	70¼	+¼	1.4	..
267	206	Fmn Eurost	216	..	0.7	..
145	114	Fmn German	124	..	0.5	..
374	277	Fmn Pacific	297	..	1.1	..
144	116	Fmn PEP	123	..	3.6	..
192	154	Fmn Smaller	154½	..	1.7	..
120	90	Fmn US Smlr	97	..	..	..
28½	21½	Fulcrum Cap	21½	..	..	..
54	41	Fulcrum Inct	41	..	26.4	..
146	134½	Fulcrum Zero	144½	..	..	..
213	188	Gartmore Brit	195	..	4.7	..
151	124	Gartmore Euro	134	+1	0.8	..
130	85	Gartmore Shdt	85	..	14.1	..
247	201	G'more Smlr Cos	210	..	3.4	..
128	94	Geared Inc Invt	94	-½	11.1	..
200	138	Genl Cons Cap	142	..	..	..
115½	104	Genl Inc	107	..	11.1	..
106	86	German Inv	95½	..	0.1	..
335	192	Gov Asian Sm Co's	214	+2	0.2	..
151	90¼	Gov Emg Mkts	94	+1½	0.3	..
191	135	Govett Am Smlr	141	..	..	..
96½	77¼	Gov Glob Smlr	78	..	..	..
112	76	Govett High Inc	76	-½	9.2	..
429	322	Govett Oriental	340	+1	0.4	..
346	226	Govett Strategic	239	..	3.7	..
475	375	Greenfriar	375	..	2.3	..
19	6	Gresham House	19	..	..	..
303	203	GT Japant	203	-4	0.8	..
155	116	H Govett Smlr Co	117	..	1.1	..
138	113	Herd High	117	..	6.0	..
293	257	Herd Strata	262	..	0.2	..
105	83	Herald	83	..	..	..
116	85	HTR Jap Smaller	85	-3	0.7	..
37	13	I&S Ent	14	..	..	..
119	93	I&S UK Smlr	94	..	3.7	..
173	123	Inv Capt	124	..	5.2	..
99	86	Intl Biotech	96	..	..	..
50	28	Intl Wts	28	..	..	..
177	126	INVESCO Korea	130	+1	..	..
122	88¼	J Fry 2nd U	90	..	6.4	..
100	90	J Fry Eurn U	90	-1	6.7	..
255	186	JF Fledg Jap	186	-2½	..	..
121	101	Jupiter Intl Grn	101	..	4.3	..
243	194	Kiwi Cmrt	204	-1	2.2	..
149	99	Kiwi E Mkt	104½	+1	..	..
30¼	11	Locker (T) A	12	..	4.2	..
49	29	Mt Hoyt	29	-1	5.0	10.1
67	22	MS Intl	22	..	8.5	13.3
179	129	Mang Bronze	155	+2	3.2	12.1
539	378	McKechnie	393	..	4.7	23.1
120	61	Meggitt	79	+1	6.2	12.7
130	101	Metair	108	..	4.3	17.9
133	99	Metsec	131	..	2.9	18.2
589	487	Molins	490	..	4.0	9.9
408	293	Morgan Cble	310	+1	5.2	15.0
217	176	Morris Ashbyt	194	+4	4.0	14.0
51	34	Newsprint?	34	..	4.6	17.1
128	48	Neotronics†	66	..	3.1	*
60	40	Newmark (L)	40	..	..	..
59¼	27½	Old Indt	28	-½	7.8	..
358	277	Oxford Instt	321	..	2.0	18.9
341	218	Powerscreen	248	+2	3.6	10.4
23½	12¼	Prospect Indst	13¼	..	8.0	6.8
108	60	Radiant Metal	73	..	..	..
71	13	Ransomes	35	..	..	..
95	70	Record	82	..	3.6	18.0
281	243¼	Renctraw	285	..	3.1	22.4
192	126	Renold	182	+1½	2.1	25.2
73	51	Richard (Leics)	56	..	5.1	30.4
104½	75	Richardson West	75	..	5.4	16.5
204	149	Rolls-Royce	153	+3	4.1	27.0
196	156	Rotork	164	..	3.4	16.7
160	134	Robacort?	158	..	3.8	25.8
150½	67	Senior Eng	72	..	5.9	11.7
270	245	Servomex	266	..	3.1	28.4
630	488	Siebert	522	-3	2.7	16.8
130½	74	Simon Eng	82	..	..	..
83	35	Sir Hundred	81	..	2.3	28.0
1459¼	1031¼	SKF 'B'	1300	+134¼	..	..
537¼	411	Smiths Ind	428	-4	3.8	16.4
465	337	Spirax-Sarco	437	..	2.8	18.6
267	197	Sterling Ind	239	..	3.7	15.5
455	328	TI	333	..	4.3	18.4
121	92	Tinsley (E)	97	..	7.2	13.2
105	45	Transfer Tech	60	..	6.9	8.6
163	125	Triplex Lloyd†	128	..	6.8	..
18½	12	Utd Inds	14½	..	0.9	..
1548	980	VSEL	1515	..	2.9	14.2
31½	11½	Vesson	13	-½	..	..
204	162	Vickers	171	..	2.6	18.1
327	230	Victaulic	240	..	4.2	13.2
19	8¼	Wakers Gp	10	..	..	..
531	451	Weir	510	-1	2.0	13.3
805	661	Vosper Thorny	727	-3	3.2	15.7
527	445	Wagon Ind	449	..	5.1	22.8
354½	227	Weir	228	..	3.6	13.6
46½	36	Wellman	39½	+½	3.2	64.5
548	365	Whatman	448	+1	2.9	16.4
264	90	Whessoe	123	..	2.3	..
395	296	Murray Intt	310½	-½	5.1	..
164½	153	Murray S/C DP	163	+½	..	..
174	126	Murray S/C Cap	138	+½	..	..
97	74	Murray S/C Inct	74	..	17.9	..
3400	2650	Murray S/C Utsy	3000	..	2.4	..
548	390	Murray Small	393	-1	1.4	..
363	302½	Murray Vent	327	..	4.4	..
58	26	Murray Em Wts	27	..	..	..
23½	14	Murray Eu Wts	14	..	..	..
58	15	Newmarket	16	..	..	..
95	54	Nydrog Inct	54	..	9.5	..
104	61	Nwdrog Cap	64	..	..	..
404	316	O'seas Inv Tst	325	-1	1.3	..
241	178	O'seas Wts	179	..	..	..
640½	362	Pacific Assets	454	+9	0.4	..
542	268	Pacific Wts	356	+7	..	..
130	82	Perpetual Jap	82	-1	..	..
9400	7900	Personal Assets	8600	..	2.8	..
153	117	Pilot Inv	117	-1	1.7	..
96	82	Piper Euro Sm	82	..	..	..
93	88	Prolific Inc	89½	..	..	..
189	164½	RIT Cap Ptnr	169	..	1.1	..
38	26½	River Merc Am Cap	28	..	..	..
121	100	River Merc Am Inc	109	..	9.8	..
17	9	River Merc Am Wts	9½	..	..	..
150	114	River Merc Cap	117	-1	..	..
147	83	River Merc Ex Inct	83	-1	11.7	..
49	11	River Merc Ex Inc Wt	11	..	..	..
116	81	River Merc Gvd Inc	83	..	11.5	..
35	23	River Merc Gvd Ptt	26½	..	..	..
127	109	River Merc Tst Inc	109	..	19.6	..
40	21	River Merc Wt	21½	..	..	..
170	113	River Merc Sm Co	115	+1	4.6	..
77	20	River Merc Sm Wt	20	..	..	..
449	394	Robeco	394	..	2.2	..
463	398	Rolinco	398	..	2.0	..
99	71½	Schrod Jap Grth	72	-2½	..	..
52	26	Schrod Jap Grth Wt	28½	-½	..	..
111¾	754	Schrod Korea Fd	758½	-3¼	0.2	..
650½	361¼	Sch Korea Fd Wt	363½	-3¼	..	..
113½	103	Sch Spl Zero Div	112¼	-½	..	..
37	27½	Sch Split Fd Cap	28½	..	..	..
129	108	Sch Split Fd Inct	109	..	8.5	..
99	86	Schrod UK Grth	90½	..	2.1	..
42	28	Schrod UK Grth Wt	30	..	..	..
262½	200	Scot	208¼	+½	3.1	..
183	148	Scot American	151½	-1	4.1	..
368	216	Scot Asian	235	+2	..	..
1070	555	Scot Wts	570	..	..	..
97½	74¼	Scot Eastern	79	..	2.5	..
264½	205	Scot Mtge	212	..	3.4	..
106½	83½	Scot Nat Tst†	93½	-1	11.2	..
133½	101	Scot Value	102½	..	2.4	..
1795	1475	Second Alliance†	1549	-1	3.5	..
106	76	Secs Tst of Scot	79¼	-½	5.1	..
179	131	Selective Asset	131	..	1.5	..
161	125	SHIRESCOT	135	..	5.7	..
51½	33½	Sphere Invt	33½	..	14.4	..
343	290	St Andrew Inv	299	-1	3.5	..
412	310	Temple Bar	333	-2	3.3	..
135	30	Thmtn Asian E	101½	-1½	0.6	..
568	453	Throg Dual Cp	495	..	..	..
101	69	Throgmorton	69½	-½	4.2	..
164½	38	Tooco Emg Mkt	107½	+2½	0.2	..
177½	133½	TR City Of Lon†	142½	..	4.6	..
305	137	TR Far East	140½	-½	5.2	..
124½	80	TR Pacific†	99	..	3.2	..
43½	27¼	TR Property	30¼	..	3.7	..
228	174	TR Smr Cost	176	..	3.7	..
152	100	TR Tech Inv	106	-1	3.6	..
405	177	Turkey Trust	185	..	1.4	..
269	222	USDC Invest	223	..	3.6	..
129	108½	Value Inc Tst	110	-1	4.6	..
109	61	Vigmaxe	61	+1	5.9	..
257½	205	Witan	219	-1½	3.5	..
113	92	Yeoman Inc	95	..	10.1	..
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible] (faded column of further trust entries)				

LEISURE & HOTELS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
40	26	Aberdn Sti H	[illegible]	..	..	..
579¼	415	Airtours	419	..	3.6	8.2
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]				
79	49	BR Hldgs	55	..	2.5	..
598	475	Granadat	512	+1½	2.4	15.2
96	29	Hi-Tec Sports	29	-6	12.0	4.3
216	111	Hornby	112	..	10.0	9.8
187½	142½	Jurys Hotel	187½	+3¼	3.7	16.9
18¼	17¼	Katepet	17	..	3.7	19.5
289	200	London Clubs	270	-2	5.5	13.7
217½	145	Ladbroke	172½	..	2.5	30.4
104	48	Magnolia	49	-1	0.3	..
140½	107¼	Man Utd	129	..	4.1	21
109¼	64¼	Mandarin Ord	77¼	..	4.2	19.8
15	11¼	Mr Kinda Town	12¼	-..	..	..
81	34	Northern	74	+1	5.1	12.3
102	65½	Pelican Grp	78	-1	2.0	16.3
141	109	PizzaExpress	131	..	2.0	15.1
183	93	Prism Leisure†	93	..	5.6	6.6
43	21	Quadrant Grp	30	..	..	..
278	205	Ramsdens (H)†	230	..	2.4	..
447½	355½	Rank Org	378	+12	4.5	18.9
31½	18¼	Ryan Hotels IE	29	..	4.5	16.5
1135	790	Savoy Hotel 'A'	935	..	0.5	..
92	60¼	Stakis†	77½	..	2.5	..
381	296¼	Stanley Leisure†	361	+9	1.8	20.9
345½	280	Tanjong	280	..	0.7	15.7
1165	959	Thorn EMI†	1043	-1	4.2	19.0
167	75	Tottenhm Hot	157	..	0.8	16.3
176	129	VCI	176	..	1.5	15.7
149	112	Vardon	137	+1	1.4	..
18	5	Wembley	5½	..	..	..
149	107	Zetters Grp	118	..	10.1	9.2

MEDIA

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
365	270	Abbott Mead	339	..	2.2	30.7
355	198	Adscene	282	-3	3.1	17.5
33	17¼	Aegis Gp	23¼	..	..	..
11¼	2¼	Allied Radio	2¼	..	..	..
26	13	BBB Design	13	..	..	35.9
235	155	Barbour Index	187	..	5.9	16.5
13½	5½	Birdale	5½	..	..	..
345	328	Black (A&C)	320	..	5.3	11.6
402	178	Blenheim Gp	199	-4	6.5	7.4
206	133	Border TV†	282	..	2.7	17.7
413	353	Bristol	353	..	4.4	35.9
279	245	B Sky B	248½	-6½	..	47.0

MINING

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]				
545	450	[illegible]	475	-1	3.2	16.0
3575	1331½	[illegible]	2163½	-21¼	4.0	..
1228	653½	[illegible]	683½	-4	1.1	35.5
62	43	[illegible]	43	-2	10.1	9.9

OIL & GAS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
45½	24¼	Aran Energy	45	..	..	27.2
53	35	Arcora Intl	42	-1	..	..
74¼	46¼	Ass Oil & Gas	43	+¼	..	..
68	43	Assa Pet	50	..	..	..
249	197	Br Borneo	246	..	3.6	11.5
358	253	British Gas	256¼	-2¼	6.3	17.4
437½	340	Br Petroleum†	404	-7¼	3.2	14.4
4	1¼	Beta Resources	2¼	..	..	..
919	783	Burmah Castrl	839	-1	4.1	16.7
88	56	Cairn Energy	84	..	..	46.3
375	258	Calor Gp	262	-2	6.0	12.6
51	33	Clyde Pet	39	..	1.1	..
30	8¼	Coplex Res	8¼	+..	..	..
2½	1¼	Dragon Oil	1¼	..	..	..
27½	17	Edo Oil & Gs	21	..	..	22.7
486	370	Enterprise	393	-4	5.1	..
37	8	Fairhaven Intl	8	..	15.2	3.3
303	240	Flogas	240	..	6.7	9.9
8¼	4¼	Fortune	5¼	..	..	33.5
77	54	Goal Pet	70	..	2.6	23.3
47	31	Gt Western Res	40	+1	..	..
177	139	Hardy O & G	154	-3	0.8	19.7
55	40	Kelt Energy	54	..	3.1	21.7
169	110½	Lasmo	152	+2	0.8	..
73	40	Lasmo Units	40	..	24.5	..
75	55	Monument	63¼	..	..	87.6
7½	3¼	New London	5¼	..	..	..
2584¼	1912½	Norsk Hydro	2387½	-21¼	1.7	*
9½	3¼	Oceanics	4½	..	..	..
50	38	Oil Search	40	..	..	..
50¼	17½	Petroz	32¼	+¼	..	..
194	140	Pict Pet	185	..	..	..
32½	21	Premier	23¼	-½	..	12.6
156	43	Presidio	43	..	15.5	..
111	75	Pillencrett Rs	75	..	..	..
345	129	Ramco Egy	316	+1	0.2	..
463	325	Ranger	368	..	1.4	..
7700	6681¼	Royal Dtch R	7175	-75	4.7	..
4084¼	3321½	Schlumberger	3628¼	+31¼	2.1	..
68	43	Scot Pickford	44	-2	2.6	8.5
90	50	Seafield	89	+1	..	..
758	651	Shell	708	-12	4.9	*
187	116	Soreas Eng Sv	#116	..	..	..
4237¼	3431¼	Total	3565¼	+12¼	2.6	17.7
19	8¼	Villers Grp	10	..	..	..
245	178¼	Woodside	231	..	1.6	..
110	28	XCL	40	+1	..	..

OTHER FINANCIAL

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
165	75	BWD	79	..	6.6	8.5
131	96	Baltic Plc	130	..	1.9	8.2
185	65	Berry Bch Ntl	66	-4	9.8	9.8
215	148	Bettec Inv	155	-2	..	..
154	108	Brown Dolphint	124	+3	6.0	9.5

PHARMACEUTICALS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]				
[illegible]	[illegible]	Pearson	[illegible]		2.9	15.6
[illegible]	[illegible]	Glaxo	[illegible]	+1	5.6	15.2
[illegible]	[illegible]	Reed Int	[illegible]			
[illegible]	[illegible]	Reuters	[illegible]			
611	357	SmithKline	507½	-10¼	3.2	..
487	323	Smithkline Uts	483	+9	3.4	..
1036¼	488	Wellcome	1011	-6	2.9	21.4
934	672	Zeneca	979	+3	3.9	17.7

PRINTING & PAPER

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
164	122	AG Holdings	136	..	5.5	11.9
444	335	API	412	+3	2.8	19.6
316	219	Arjo Wiggins	246	-5	3.3	37.1
205	145	Aspen Coms	164	..	3.6	18.5
473	347	Bemrose	363	..	4.3	13.0
524	387	Bowater	407½	+2½	4.8	15.3
2040¼	1376¼	Bowater Inc	2040¼	+42¼	..	..
297	242	Bonsore Intl	285	..	1.8	17.3
515	435	Br Polythene	491	..	3.1	17.2
116	25	Br Thornton	26	..	9.6	2.5
199¼	112	Bristan Grp	123	+6	2.2	21.1
165	138	Ecacl	167½	-½	3.1	19.7
198	129	Chrysal Ines	140	..	4.0	11.0
2445¼	1530¼	Cornaud Sth	2078½	-121½	2.4	15.7
429	268	Cooper (Jones)	268	-2	1.6	14.1
1054	825	De La Rue	1035	..	2.5	18.8
114	62	Delyn Group	62	-1	3.4	11.3
117	100	Doufen Pack	100	..	5.6	12.9
107	75	Fairway Group	84	..	5.5	..
433	286	Ferguson Intl	320	..	5.0	12.9
145	105	Ferry Pick	105	..	6.8	..
[illegible]	1¼	Hercomand	1¼	..	..	..
230	150	Inveresk	154	..	4.1	9.3
280	248	Jarvis Porter	250	..	2.3	18.9
438	384	Low & Bonar	420	+3	3.5	13.7
63	44¼	MY Holdings	51	-1	3.9	12.1
271	223	Macfarlane	232	-1	2.2	18.7
180	150	Photobase	156	..	4.8	11.3
250	145	Pyco	188	..	4.7	30.7
1023	513	Rexam	1081	..	1.9	29.3
412	314	St Ives Gp	333	-2	2.4	18.0
1153½	464¼	Saco	1083	-8¼	0.5	..
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	8			
[illegible]	143	ScOw	151	+2	9.1	..
[illegible]	398	Smith David	527	-2	2.9	16.0
[illegible]	273¼	Smurfit (Jef)	284	..	1.4	37.2
119	92	Sonac	94	-5	3.7	10.8
[illegible]	15¼	Ldn Grnp	15	..	..	..
489	129	Vace	325	..	2.2	14.4
291	153	Waddington (J)	189	-2	5.7	9.2
611	551	Wetherbys	363	-1	2.3	23.0
149	98	Wyndeham	137	..	2.6	17.5

PROPERTY

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
122	84	Allied Lon	94	..	5.8	10.8
315	255	Argent	256	..	..	..
85	63	Artesian Ests	68	..	..	..
201	134	Asda	194	..	2.7	18.5
264	209	Bilton	232	+1	5.2	16.9
292	193	Bradford	223	..	4.2	17.6
[illegible]	[illegible]	Brixton	[illegible]	..	..	27.5
11	9	Burton Gp	9	..	..	..
313	52	Capital & Cntl	62	-2	1.5	..
193	142	Capital Shop	195	..	4.4	16.4
515	113	Chelsfield	116	..	4.0	..
474	343	Br Land	374	+3	2.6	35.5
278	169	Burford	185	+1	5.5	16.5
122	87	[illegible]	94½	-1½	2.1	30.6
112	35	CLS Hldgs	99	..	6.2	..
178	135¼	Cap & Regnl	132	..	1.5	29.9
[illegible]	167	Cap Shop Ctrs	260	..	4.1	46.1
209	168	Castle Pont	193	..	1.6	..
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	24½	..	..	..
455	143	Chelsfield	149	-1	2.0	50.6
678	413	Chesterfield	452	..	3.4	20.3
165	73	Cheslerton Intl	79	..	5.2	11.1
84	36	City Site Est	48	..	..	11.2
12½	6¼	Clarke Nickalls	6	..	2.1	12.5
65	50	Conraco	65	..	7.8	5.6
56	21	Conrad Ritbl GSt	21	-1	3.9	24.7
1755	1150	Daejan	1190	..	3.0	12.3
15½	3	Dares Estates▲	4½	..	..	..
17	4	De Morgan	#5¼	..	..	..
156	71	Debenham Tweo	71	-1	6.2	11.3
239	153	Derwent	158	..	2.6	44.4
347½	230	Derwent Hldgs	234	+1	2.5	20.9
41	16¼	Development Sec	17¼	-¼	8.7	..
51	42	Dwyer	42	-1	2.2	19.9
53	28	Eeco	28	..	..	..
460	275	Estates Agency	339	..	4.7	..
47	18	Estates Gen	19½	..	..	..
132	97	Evans Of Leeds	98	-1	3.3	16.3
43½	21½	Ex-Lands	22¼	..	2.3	78.5
80	64	Focal Prop	66	..	1.1	..
37	33¼	Five Oaks	34¼	..	2.6	10.3
37	24	Fletcher Kingt	24	-1	7.8	11.9
51	38	Folkes Group	43	..	4.4	..
51	36	Folkes Group nv	40	..	4.7	22.7
536	405	Frogmore	438	+2	5.0	15.5
325	228	Grainger†	245	..	3.9	13.5
260	167½	Gt Portland	174	-1	5.9	39.8
226½	118	Greycoat	128	..	0.6	..
36	30	Hambro Cntryw	30	..	1.0	30.5
420	298	Hammerson	323	+2	3.9	32.4
390	298	Helical Bar	306	..	2.5	11.0
40¼	24¼	Hemingway	25	..	2.0	42.9
78	16½	Herring Baker	16½	-2½	7.6	..
75	31	High-Point†	50	..	2.5	..
269	109	HK Land	119	-1½	5.5	15.2
311¼	136¼	Jermyn	160	..	..	..
792	543	Land Sec	585	+2	5.2	16.7
367	322	London Indl	322	-7	3.9	17.7
43½	36½	Lon & Assoc	36½	..	2.2	34.6
16	6	Lon & Metro	7	..	..	0.2
122	86	Lon Merch Sec	91½	..	5.7	15.2
562	353	MEPC	396	+8	6.3	23.1
13½	5¼	Mcinerney A	7¼	..	..	..
190	140	McKay Secst	141	..	4.6	13.5
85	33	Merivale Mre	55	..	4.5	8.6
65	27	Moorfield Est	30	..	4.2	..
1425	1000	Mountview	1000	..	2.8	7.7
196	140	Mucklow (A&J)	141	..	5.6	18.7
2¼	½	ORB	½	..	..	1.0
64	27	Olives Prop	27	..	..	10.1
191	135	PSIT†	135½	..	4.5	18.1
399	218	Peelt	237	..	2.6	32.1
162	138	Pillar Prop	158	+2	3.0	..
12½	1¼	Power Corp	1½	..	..	..
9¼	4¼	Premier Land	5¼	+¼	..	20.1
77	56	RPS Group	71	+1	4.6	12.8
53	30	Raglan	30	..	..	7.3
40	23½	Regalian	24¼	..	..	6.0
180	125	Rowlinson Secs	125	..	1.9	8.9
134	97	Rugby Est	100	..	2.8	3.8
64	40	St Modwen Prpt	43½	..	4.6	..
78	59	Saville Grdn (J)†	61	..	5.7	14.5
100	46	Savills†	46	..	6.1	7.4
108	64	Scot Met	74	..	3.4	8.9
135	86	Shaftesbury	90	..	1.4	19.7
307	207½	Slough Estates	226	+4	4.5	46.3
103	42	Southend Propt	45	-1	6.8	..
133	100	Specity Shops	108	..	2.8	..
50	2¼	Stanhope Prps	3	-..	..	..
44	34	TBI	39½	..	..	1.8
244	183	Tops Estst	167	..	1.7	42.5
130¼	92¼	Town Centre	97	..	3.9	18.0
107	81	Trafford Park	81	..	4.9	13.7
29½	15	Trenchenwood	20	..	..	7.8
58	28	UK Land	40	..	..	..
317	192	Warner	198	..	7.4	18.6
280	216	Warnfordt	225	..	4.3	18.6
103½	62	Wates	66	..	..	..
45	25	Whitney Mck	27	..	..	..
105	46	Wood John Dt	48	..	5.4	10.0
30	15	YRM	18	..	..	..

RETAILERS, FOOD

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
70	50¼	ASDA Groupt	68¼	+¼	3.3	15.7
315	222¼	Argyll	273¼	-½	5.3	11.7
505	413	Budge Bros	462	..	1.9	16.6
43	23	Budgens	32¼	-¼	3.8	18.5
17	11¼	Cullens	13	..	..	..
137	65¼	Dairy Farm Intl	74¼	+1	4.9	10.3
394	344	Fanspak†	349	..	2.5	18.1
60	37	Fitzwilton	40	..	11.3	..
110	87	Fyffest	110	..	1.7	..
371	165	Geest	171	..	5.9	..
1080	653	Greggs	1050	..	2.3	19.7
211	133	Iceland Group	150	..	3.3	9.3
656	523	Kwik Save	534	+6	4.5	9.6
18	9	Merchant Retail	10½	..	..	..
149	99	Morrison (W)	137	+3	0.9	16.0
232	126	Nurdin Peack	161	+2	5.1	8.9
146	89½	Park Foodst	113	..	2.8	10.1
5¼	1½	Regina Hlth	1½	..	..	..
480	342	Sainsbury J	414	-2	3.3	14.6
258	200½	Tesco	252	-1	4.0	12.6
198	145	Thornton	145	-1	4.2	11.9
422	279	Watson& Philipt	363	-1	5.3	13.6

RETAILERS, GENERAL

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
80	25	Alexon	27	..	..	..
246	199	Alders	209	..	4.0	11.9
410	307	Argos Plc	338	+2	3.1	17.8
102	54¼	Ashley (Laura)	75	..	0.2	..
357	110	Aspray	111	-3	6.8	9.1
246	176	Austin Reed	217	..	3.2	10.9
168	131	Beattie (J) 'A'	132	..	5.9	17.2
150	110	Bentalls	115	..	2.2	39.8
165	36	Betterware	43	..	8.1	4.6
48	29	Blacks Leis	31	..	9.1	..
264	167	Body Shop	177	+1	1.5	15.6
601	458¼	Boots	483	..	4.0	15.4
12½	1½	Brown & Jackson	1¼	..	..	..
263	205	Brown (N)	235	..	2.2	20.9
74½	51	Burton†	68¼	-½	3.7	33.6
245	130	Carlton	134	..	3.8	19.0
384	220	Carpenight†	258	..	4.0	18.3
246	145	Carsbes Int	140	..	1.7	26.3
520	388	Church	480	..	3.4	24.4
171	83	Clinton Cards	84	..	7.0	12.2
170	81	City Casuals	99	+3	5.4	28.4
803	720	Courts Furnish†	785	..	1.9	40.0
210	155	Crown Eye	185	..	6.8	7.7
353	238	DFS Furniture	243	+2	3.7	18.3
267	170	Dixons Grpt	212	+1	4.6	22.5
580	530	Elys (Wimbldn)	580	..	3.8	27.2
11½	7½	EFA Gp	9	..	..	..
234	115	Essex Furn	119	+3	4.5	34.9
325	170	Etam	182	..	6.3	18.1
558	320	Fine Art Dev	330	..	5.5	18.2
63	46	Flred Erch	58	..	..	..
166	71	Flying Flowers	98	..	2.4	12.6
278	174	French Conn	174	..	..	11.8
264	235	Frost Group	234	+4	2.8	23.6
66	49	Gieves	53	..	3.5	18.9
136	65	Gorrdons Gr	127	..	1.9	22.8
655	492	GUS	513	-8¼	3.3	14.7
196	164	Hamleys	189	..	3.1	18.2
36	21	Hampden Grp	35	..	3.6	..
227	151	Hse of Fraser	151	-2	4.1	13.6
95	68½	Hughes (LH)	80	..	4.0	13.1
265	229	JJB Sports	251	..	3.0	19.3
778	379	Kingfisher	423	-2	4.4	11.1
276	100	Kleeneze†	109	..	1.7	31.8
435	245	Liberty	250	..	2.4	..
399	277	Lloyds Chem	282	-2	4.2	8.2
184	119	MFI	114	-½	4.6	14.3
460½	368¼	Marks Spencer	375	-1½	3.2	16.7
660	495	Menzies (John)†	512	..	3.9	12.1
377	338	Moss Bros	349	..	3.0	13.3
275	114	Next	263	..	3.2	16.1
58	20	ODM	31	..	..	..
97	39	Oliver (G)	94	..	1.3	..
113	73	Partridge Fine	91	..	4.6	*
32	8	Pentos	8	..	..	..
268	135	QS Hldgs	135	..	4.8	14.8
62	7¼	Rhino Grp	8¼	..	..	..
209	120	Rosebys	128	..	4.9	14.0
132	95	Sears	99½	..	4.7	16.7
46	16½	Signet Group	18	+1¼	..	6.2
549	421	Smith WH†	422	-2	4.6	21.7
1260	698	Sotheby's	703	..	4.0	30.3
252	189	Storehouse	224	-1	3.2	18.4
306	151¼	Stylo	173	-2	1.9	11.7
198	146	T & S Stores	159	..	4.8	11.3
173	99½	Tie Rack	99½	-1½	2.2	11.8
63¼	3½	Upton & South	3¼	..	..	..
539	384	Vendome	434	-1	2.3	33.4
70	28	WEW Group	28	..	3.1	23.7
93½	52	Wld of Leather	60	..	1.6	..
195	138	Wyevale	156	..	3.7	18.5

SPIRITS, WINES & CIDERS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
683	491	Allied Domecq†	505	-4	5.6	13.6
459	398	Bulmer (HP)	400	..	3.5	27.6
140	105	Buzz Stewart	115	..	5.4	25.3
506	352	Grand Met†	377½	+½	4.6	17.0
542	409½	Guinness	419	-5	3.9	13.8
459	353	Highland Dstl	355	+1	2.3	18.0
222	127	Macallan-Glen	207	..	0.7	54.2
710	365	Macda Mdn 'A'	660	..	1.9	28.4
614	515	Matthew Clark†	544	-2	4.3	25.8
260	67	Morgan W	86	..	3.6	..
190	142	Taunton Cider	144	-2	5.9	11.2

SUPPORT SERVICES

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
182	73	ACT Group	103	-3	6.4	10.9
743	583	ADT	670	+5	..	..
46	34	Alphameric	38	..	..	29.7
140	43	Aldo Sec	65	+1	..	8.4
162	99	BET Ord	105	-1½	4.1	15.0
195	115	BNB Res	160	..	4.0	18.7
255	175	BPP	223	..	5.0	15.9
186	130	BSM	150	..	5.4	12.8
3¼	¼	Blash & Edg	3	..	..	..
1100	500	Borland	575	..	..	..
226	159	Brit Data Mgt	194	..	3.5	13.7
79	57	Brooks Service	65	..	3.4	..
117½	75	CRT Gp	76	..	5.6	18.5
238	150	Capita Group	157	..	2.2	28.0
423	277½	Chubb Sec	296	-3	2.8	17.2
243	105	Comptr People	224	-1	1.4	51.9
70	41	Corp Services	68	-1	0.5	25.6
97	48	Coutts Cnslg	51	..	1.0	..
276	212	Davis Service	222	-2	4.6	14.9
83	66	Dudley Jenkins†	71	..	5.9	13.5
154	79	EW Fact	80	..	7.7	8.0
199¼	135	El Data Prct	137	..	1.8	13.4
334	261	Hays	294	+1	2.6	20.0
289	163	Hogg Robinson	164	..	5.6	10.5
33	18	Holmes Protectn	27	+1	..	1.6
15	8	Int Cle & Data	12	..	..	6.1
2695¼	1566¼	ISS B DIV	1943¼	+6¼	1.1	12.1
168	126	JBA Hldgs	168	..	1.8	17.1
414	227	Johnson Clean	235	..	5.7	9.5
145	99	Kalamazoo	104	-3	4.1	11.7
298	221	Kewill Syst	262	+2	3.6	9.6
35	17	Laser-Scan	19	..	..	..
145¼	68	LBMS	84	..	..	..
8	4	Lep	4	-½	..	..
326	286	Logica	309	..	2.0	21.8
264	65½	MBS	71	..	11.0	5.0
208	143	MMT Comp	193	..	3.4	15.3
216	102	MR Data Mngt	119	..	5.8	17.4
723	408	Macro 4	408	..	6.4	11.2
1865½	1156¼	Manpower	1818¼	+12½	0.2	..
1320	780	Micro Focus	768	+3	..	9.3
178	187	Microgen	108	..	8.4	..
548¼	322	Misys	333	-20	3.2	10.4
205	141½	MITE Gpt	204	..	1.5	20.7
35	22	Movo Group	27	..	0.9	10.4
82	22	OS Intl	22	-1	10.8	4.7
31	18	Orbis	20	-1	3.9	..
85	60	P & P	82	..	4.6	9.8
124	65	Michael Page	117	..	2.5	28.7
143	90	Parity	115	..	2.4	35.9
235	149	Pegasus	149	-1	4.2	15.0
115	82	Peek	95	..	5.3	..
89¼	69¼	Proudfoot	65	..	6.7	11.1
415	275	RCO	275	..	7.6	9.6
48	27	Radius	33	..	1.3	..
183	73	Real Time	171	..	2.9	13.0
177	104	Reed Executive	139	-1	0.9	..
165	105	Reliance Sec†	146	..	4.3	22.2
279	199½	Rentokil	217	+½	1.7	22.3
194	135	Ricardo Group	138	..	6.4	16.8
215	147½	Rodie & Nobn	179	..	2.8	28.5
732	587	Sage Grp†	731	..	1.9	15.9
392	243	Salvesen (C)	259	..	4.0	13.4
94	76	Sanderson Elec	90	+3	4.0	15.1
17½	9	Select App	12	..	..	..
438	318	Serco Gp	395	..	1.1	33.8
307	243	Serco Gp	274	..	1.6	24.9
180	136	Servicor	173	-2	2.7	28.1
139	75	Sherwd Cmp	94	..	..	..
130	89	Sketchley	89½	..	4.5	15.0
254	162	Stat-Plus	171	..	6.7	16.2
146	100	Unipalm	128	..	..	..
31	12½	Vistec	14	..	3.6	7.6
65	37	WSP Hldgs	43	..	5.5	25.2
338	245	Warner Howard	249	+1	3.9	11.5

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
486	353½	BT	384	-2½	5.6	15.9
543	350½	Cable Wirelesst	384	-3	2.8	15.7
256	108	Fitronic Com	241	-5	0.4	49.9
1543	1146	Securicort	1500	..	0.3	34.2
1089	785	Securicor 'A'†	918	..	0.5	21.9
892	606	Security Servt	753	..	1.1	21.0
188	167	Telewest	185½	..	..	..
221	157½	Vodafone	195½	-1	2.0	25.3

TEXTILES & APPAREL

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
138	75	Albrecht	76	..	5.3	4.1
230	116	Alexdra W	125	..	5.8	13.3
617	464	Allied Textt	467	..	3.6	*
189	74	Allans	77	..	13.1	24.4
45	31	Automagic	31	..	..	7.2
270	200	Baird (Wm)	214	-1	5.2	18.3
71	35	Beckman (A)	46	..	9.7	22.5
290	226	Black (Peter)	239	..	2.4	13.9
121	74	Bridport-Gndry	111	..	2.4	15.2
225	171	Br Mohair	182	..	5.8	18.7
74	20	Campari	#25	..	..	..
104	69	Cassidy Brost	70	..	4.9	9.0
193	163	Chamb Phipps	175	..	5.2	23.0
385	292	Claremont Gs	302	-3	3.1	16.8
287	169	Coats Viyella	177	-2	5.8	15.4
593	415	Courtauld Text	423	+1	4.3	19.0
159¼	114	Dawson	116	-1	3.2	..
143	97½	Dewhirst (I)	136½	+½	1.6	19.3
52	32	Dobie Heal	35	..	5.0	10.2
42	25	Drummond	29	..	..	13.0
26	14	Elief	14	..	..	..
80	63	Faupel	64	..	9.8	10.4
335	260	Fil	335	..	5.6	25.0
155	136	Forminster	150	..	2.8	12.6
29	14	Foster (John)	19	..	..	..
128	81	French (Thomas)†	91	..	5.0	12.4
93	48	Gear SR	82	..	3.4	18.3
113	73	Haggas	92	-1	4.1	12.5
70½	11	Harlstone	12½	-½	3.2	..
33	21½	Helene Plc	24	..	10.5	9.9
263	222	Hicking Pnttct	240	..	2.6	17.0
31	22	Hollast	23	..	3.3	..
91	58	Honeysuckle	59	-10	6.5	6.7
106	48	Horace Small	104	..	1.2	..
211	173	Jacques Vertt	209	+1	3.1	8.7
73	55	Jerome (S)	57	..	1.8	7.2
386	268	Jones Stroudt	330	..	3.4	16.1
202½	125	Lambert	129	..	6.7	12.2
486	312	Lamont	318	..	5.0	10.6
340	247	Leeds	253	..	3.1	13.1
88	61	Leslie Wise Gp	69	..	8.0	..
101	68	Lyles (G)	83	..	5.3	8.7
27	18½	Marling†	25½	..	3.2	..
17	10	PEX	10	..	..	..
266	153	Parkland	153	..	4.1	9.1
123	84	Pentland	107	..	3.4	21.2
75	53	Pittards	68	..	3.2	..
112	59	Readicut	63½	..	8.8	10.7
90	61	Ruxmore	61	..	5.7	6.5
96	38	Richards†	45	..	5.6	..
70	42	SEET	56	..	..	..
180	77	Sherwood Gp	79	..	4.8	9.2
180	133	Sirdar	133	..	3.3	8.7
146	94	Sirdar	94	-1½	7.2	13.6
64	50	Stirling Gp	51	..	4.8	14.1
28	16	Strong & Fisher	16	..	7.8	10.9
69	34	UK Safety	35	..	8.3	8.6
142	105	Ulster (Frank)	140	-1	7.3	10.4
65	34	Vival	65	..	2.4	16.9
143	42	Watson	141	-2	2.5	20.5
283	238	Yorklyde	259	..	3.0	11.9

TRANSPORT

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
83	58	Air London	64	..	8.8	12.2
777¼	619¼	All Nippon Air	656¼	+1¼	0.3	*
313½	228	Assoc Br Ports	268	+2	2.3	21.4
541½	434	BAA	438	-1	2.7	16.7
140	103½	Badgerline	140	..	3.7	..
496¼	344	Br Airways	388	+2	3.7	9.6
79	37	Central Tran R	33	..	..	..
108	75	Clarkson (H)	99	..	..	..
179	140	Dart	150	..	2.2	24.9
592¼	195	Eurotunnel Uts	289	-3	3.2	14.5
87	50	Fisher (James)	50	..	..	..
508	405	Forth Ports	450	..	2.1	21.0
263	156	GRT Bus	263	+2	1.8	30.4
185	113	Go-Ahead	183	+1	2.7	22.7
222	125	Goode Durrant	212	..	3.7	16.0
155	125	Ind Swan	126	..	4.4	9.6
71	39	Jacobs (JI)	56	..	3.7	..
111	70	Lon O'Seas Frts	77	..	6.2	1.8
534	358	Mersey Docks	383	-2	3.5	*
291	146	NFC†	168	-1	5.3	17.3
347	245	Nat Express	320	..	3.0	18.5
348	244	Ocean Group	283	-1	8.3	14.3
91	58	Ocean Wilson	70	..	5.7	10.1
743	556	P & O Dfd	562	+3	6.8	17.4
209	153	P & O 5.5%	168	-1	4.1	..
102	84	Seacont	90	..	3.3	46.5
237	158	Stagecoach	237	..	2.2	23.5
131	83	TNT	88	-1	..	..
915	600	Tibbet & Britn	606	-3	3.0	15.5
327	189	TDG	183	-1	6.3	12.7
138	98	Ugland†	118	..	2.5	*
160	75	Utd Carriers	93	..	3.2	..

WATER

1994/95 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
607	442	Anglian	479	-3	6.1	10.8
365	293	Mid Kent Hdgs	340	+2	4.3	11.5
611	454	North West	510	-3	5.8	7.3
769	508	Northumbrian†	732	-7	4.4	7.8
645	457	Severn Trent†	502	-3	5.8	8.4
2000	1525	South Staffs	2000	+35	3.4	12.1
675	459	South West	502	-2	6.5	7.4
682	466	Southern†	546	+1	5.5	7.9
611	434½	Thames	478	-2	6.1	7.2
744	546	Welsh†	600	..	5.5	6.8
379¼	261	Wessex†	277	+10	5.5	7.2
630	458	Yorkshire†	515	-1	5.7	7.6

Source: Finstat

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BRITISH FUNDS

1994/95 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Gross red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
103¾	97¾	Gas 3% 1990-95	99¹¹⁄₃₂	..	3.02	6.31
107¹⁄₁₆	101¹⁄₃₂	Exch 10¼% 1995	101²⁹⁄₃₂	..	10.10	6.71
113¾	104¹⁄₃₂	Treas 12¾% 1995	104¹⁄₃₂	..	12.26	6.87
117¾	105¹⁄₁₆	Treas 14% 1996	105²⁹⁄₃₂	..	13.22	7.10
121¾	108¾	Treas 15¼% 1996	108¾	-⅛	14.02	7.42
117²⁹⁄₃₂	108½	Exch 13¼% 1996	108¾	-⅛	12.43	7.54
112⅞	102⅞	Conv 10% 1996	103⅛	-⅛	9.68	7.81
100¾	95⅛	Treas 7% 1997	97¾	-⅛	7.17	8.15
121¹⁵⁄₁₆	109⅞	Treas 13¼% 1997	109⅞	-⅛	12.14	7.98
114⅞	104⅞	Exch 10½% 1997	104⅞	-⅛	10.04	8.02
110⅞	100⅞	Treas 8¾% 1997	101¼ †	-⅛	8.65	8.25
131⅜	115⅞	Exch 15% 1997	115⅞	-⅛	12.97	8.34
114⅞	102⅞	Exch 9¾% 1998	103⅛	-⅛	9.43	8.45
106⅞	95⅞	Treas 7¼% 1998	95⅞ †	-⅛	7.48	8.45
102	93⅞	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	95⅞	-⅛	7.08	8.46
131⅞	114⅞	Treas 14% 1998-01	115⅞	-⅛	12.17	8.60
140⅞	128⅞	Treas 15½% 1998	121⅞ †	-⅛	12.78	8.52
125⅞	109⅞	Exch 12% 1998	110⅞	-⅛	10.85	8.62
116⅞	100⅞	Treas 9½% 1999	103⅞	-⅛	9.22	8.58
128⅞	111⅞	Exch 12¼% 1999	112⅞ †	-⅛	10.92	8.66
121⅞	105⅞	Treas 10½% 1999	106⅞	-⅛	9.85	8.63
101⅞	88⅞	Treas 6% 1999	90⅞	-⅛	6.62	8.60
121⅞	104⅞	Conv 10¼% 1999	105⅞	-⅛	9.66	8.69
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
116⅞	99⅞	Conv 9% 2000	101⅞ xd	-⅛	8.86	8.64
98⅞	96	Treas 8% 2000	97⅞	-⅛	8.27	8.58
139⅞	116⅞	Treas 13% 2000	118	-⅛	11.02	8.77
122⅞	103⅞	Treas 10% 2001	105⅞ xd	-⅛	9.48	8.79
106⅞	86⅞	Treas 7% 2001	91⅞	-⅛	7.65	8.72
123⅞	102⅞	Treas 9¾% 2002	105⅞ †	-⅛	8.27	8.82
113⅞	92⅞	Treas 8% 2003	95⅞	-⅛	8.36	8.75
127⅞	104½	Treas 10% 2003	107	-⅛	9.35	8.83
129⅞	108⅞	Treas 11½% 2001-04	112	-⅛	10.27	8.92
86⅞	69⅞	Fund 3½% 1999-04	74⅞	+⅛	4.71	7.43
125⅞	101⅞	Conv 9½% 2004	104⅞	-⅛	9.08	8.76
105⅞	84⅞	Treas 6¾% 2004	87⅞	-⅛	7.72	8.69
100⅞	81	Treas 8½% 2005	95⅞	-⅛	8.60	8.66
125½	102½	Conv 9½% 2005	104⅞	-⅛	9.06	8.75
143⅞	118⅞	Treas 12½% 2003-05	120⅞	-⅛	10.35	9.01
112⅞	90⅞	Treas 7¾% 2006	93⅞ †	-⅛	8.30	8.89
111⅞	91⅞	Treas 8% 2002-06	94⅞	-⅛	8.48	8.70
138⅞	112⅞	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	115⅞	-⅛	10.20	9.03
119⅞	95⅞	Treas 8½% 2007	98⅞	-⅛	8.59	8.84
151⅞	124⅞	Treas 13½% 2004-08	127⅞ xd	-⅛	10.60	9.02
124⅞	99⅞	Treas 9% 2008	102⅞	-⅛	8.75	8.63
115⅞	91⅞	Treas 8% 2009	94⅞ xd	+⅛	8.42	8.62
LONGS (over 15 years)						
98⅞	77⅞	Treas 6¼% 2010	80⅞	-⅛	7.75	8.51
126⅞	100⅞	Conv 9% 2011	103⅞	-⅛	8.70	8.60
127⅞	100⅞	Treas 9% 2012	103⅞	-⅛	8.68	8.69
93⅞	71⅞	Treas 5½% 2008-12	74⅞ †	+⅛	7.43	8.34
117⅞	92	Treas 8% 2013	95⅞ †	-⅛	8.41	8.53
114⅞	89⅞	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	92⅞	-⅛	8.37	8.54
128⅞	99⅞	Treas 8¾% 2017	102⅞ †	-⅛	8.55	8.51
159⅞	126⅞	Exch 12% 2013-17	129⅞	-⅛	9.25	8.74
UNDATED						
54⅞	38⅞	War Ln 3½%	41⅞	-⅛	8.46	..
37⅞	27⅞	Treas 2½%	28⅞ xd		8.84	..
INDEX-LINKED						
204⅞	197⅞	Treas IL 2% 1996	204 †	-⅛	1.97	3.67
113⅞	106⅞	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	107⅞	-⅛	2.79	3.70
176⅞	163⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2001	167⅞ †	-⅛	3.41	3.88
173⅞	158⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2003	163⅞	-⅛	3.51	3.87
118⅞	107⅞	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	108⅞	-⅛	3.54	3.88
184⅞	169⅞	Treas IL 2% 2006	169⅞	-⅛	3.80	3.86
168⅞	149⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2009	153⅞	-⅛	3.85	3.87
175⅞	154⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2011	158⅞	-⅛	3.69	3.89
146⅞	126⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2013	130⅞	-⅛	3.71	3.89
157⅞	134⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2016	138⅞	-⅛	3.73	3.90
152⅞	129⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2020	133	-⅛	3.75	3.90
128⅞	106⅞	Treas IL 2½% 2024	110⅞	-⅛	3.74	3.88
128⅞	105⅞	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	109⅞	-⅛	3.77	3.91

هكذا من الأصل



DOWN TO EARTH 32

Patrick Moore loses his traveller's cheques

WEEKEND MONEY

MONEY GUIDE

Personal equity plans put into focus



Homebuyers hit a wall of silence

Liz Dolan on a battle by negative-equity victims for information on mortgage indemnity policies

There is still no sign of cracks in the wall of silence erected by mortgage lenders and insurers against requests to view mortgage indemnity guarantee (MIG) contracts. But pressure to get them to do so is intensifying as frustrated homebuyers and professional advisers alike begin to lose patience with their intransigence.

In the absence of definitive proof to the contrary, homebuyers are becoming increasingly suspicious that lenders are refusing to release the contracts because they have something to hide.

While the documents remain under lock and key, the almost certainly false hope will continue to grow among the country's 1.3 million borrowers currently trapped in their homes by negative equity that mortgage indemnity cover is the solution to their financial nightmares.

MIGs protect lenders against losses made on the sale of repossessed properties. Borrowers of more than 75 per cent of their property's value are nearly always forced to pay mortgage indemnity premiums, but cannot benefit from any payout.

Most people in this position are first-time buyers, many of whom cannot afford to pay premiums of, typically, £1,000 all at once. Consequently, they are added to the mortgage, thus attracting interest charges on top.

In addition, the payments extracted from borrowers may be higher than the sum actually handed over to the insurance company, with the balance going into the lender's coffers. Some lenders take the money and carry the risk themselves, without recourse to a outside insurance.

Even worse for those facing repossession, the insurance companies claim the right to recover from borrowers any money paid to lenders. This right lasts for 12 years after the claim has been settled so, people who are already suffering enormous financial problems face the possibility of being chased for thousands of pounds even though the insurance policy that they themselves financed has paid off the debt to the lender.

Legal & General, one of the biggest players in the mortgage indemnity field, says: "A debt is a debt. An insurance company still has the right to claim the money in later years, when they are back on their feet again financially."

Frustrated by the impasse, Terry Hall, a former insurance broker, whose own home is worth about £15,000 less than his mortgage, has this week decided to set up a negative equity action group (NEAG) for fellow sufferers.

He is particularly keen to attract people with an interest in fighting the lenders' obstinate stand over the thorny question of MIG disclosures.

As an insurance broker, Mr Hall learnt of at least one insurer that had been warned by its lawyers against pursuing borrowers for money after the lenders had claimed on the MIG contracts.

When the company looked into the question of suing the non-payers, its legal advisers said that, because the borrower had paid the premium,

> ‘Insurers claim right to recover money paid to lenders’

there was a good case for the court finding that the insurer had no right to demand payment.

It was, therefore, decided that it was better to have some people paying than to risk a court ruling saying that no one had to pay. Mr Hall said he was told this story by the company's chief underwriter.

One of NEAG's principle ambitions is to amass enough support to take a test case to court to obtain a definitive ruling on a borrower's rights under a MIG policy.

This plan has the full backing of Paul Judkins, a Hertford solicitor. He says: "A lot of angry people are coming to us for advice about their negative equity. It's so frustrating. I can't take these cases on because people who are heavily in debt can't afford to fund complicated and uncertain litigation, and because I can't guarantee we will be able to get hold of the policy. We think the borrower has an undeniable right to see the policy to find out where they stand." (See article right).

Mr Hall and Mr Judkins are increasingly concerned about unspecific and general advice given by self-styled specialists who say that MIG contracts can free borrowers from the negative-equity trap. The best-known of these specialist companies, Union Finance, attracts hundreds of inquiries each week from people who are so desperate for a solution that they are prepared to pay more than £300 for the company's initial advice.

According to several barristers consulted by Mr Judkins, Union Finance's interpretation of this specialised area of law is almost certainly incorrect. "But, what if a borrower tells a lender that they are following Union Finance's advice? I wrote to a lender warning them that one of my clients was doing just that and said I would only be able to convince him otherwise if they sent me a copy of the policy."

The lender has advised the client not to listen to Union Finance, but will not send the MIG contract, which would clear up any misunderstanding one way or the other. "Disclosure is an important starting point. I have told the lender that, unless he discloses the policy, he is not mitigating his losses when it comes to any future court action."

Legal & General said it would definitely not give its permission for borrowers to see contracts. A spokesman said: "These are long and complicated contracts. I don't think they would be convinced, anyway. It would just mean giving a lot of money to a lot of lawyers."

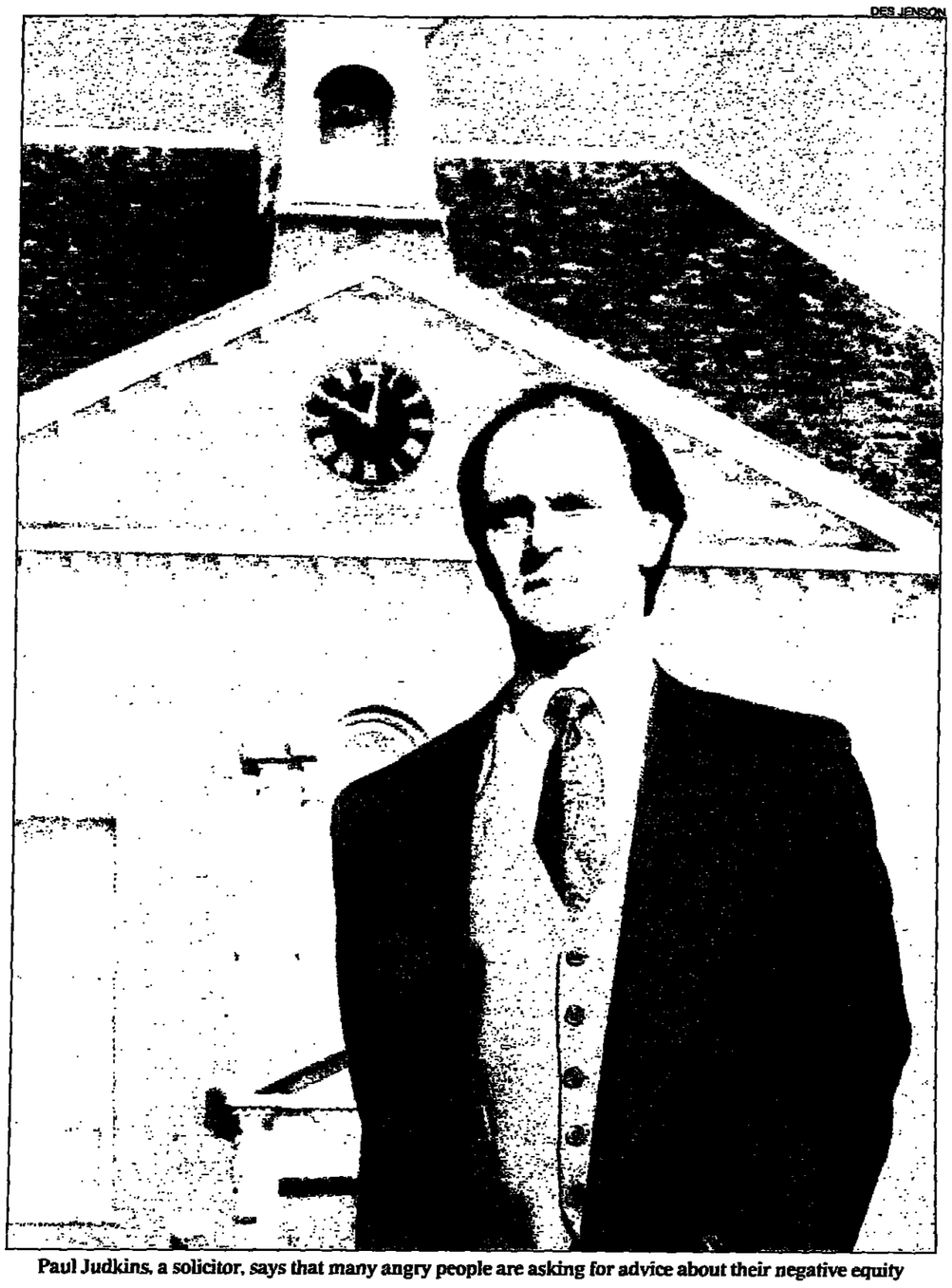
Lenders point to a ruling by a county court judge in Northampton last year that a Household Mortgage Corporation borrower was not, as he claimed, personally covered by the provisions in his MIG policy.

The judge said that it would be unfair to the insurer if the borrower did have this right because the homebuyer would then have been free to escape from his liability simply by failing to keep up payments.

Mr Judkins is also concerned about the way MIGs were presented to borrowers when they first took out the mortgage. "It all goes back to the intention of the parties when the mortgage offer was first made. I think there may be good contractual argument for saying that it was not always made clear that the policy did not benefit the borrower, and so the risk covered by a typical MIG policy falls short."

He added: "As the borrower paid the premium, there must also be a duty of care upon the lender to place insurance that benefits the borrower, or at least does not exclude him from benefiting under the policy."

Anyone wishing to hear more about NEAG's plans should send a cheque, or postal order, for £5 (to cover postage, packing and printing), plus an A4-sized self-addressed envelope to Mr T. Hall, Negative Equity Action Group, 87 Ensbury Park Road, Bournemouth BH9 2SH. If they wish to join NEAG, they will be charged an annual subscription of "probably around £10".



DES JENSON

Paul Judkins, a solicitor, says that many angry people are asking for advice about their negative equity

‘No right’ to see contract

Mortgage lenders react to requests to see mortgage indemnity guarantee (MIG) contracts with the same horror as a Victorian lady asked to expose the leg of her table.

The Woolwich Building Society says: "Our borrowers have no right, legal or moral, to see the contract. It is a confidential document involving just two parties, us and the insurer."

But what if sight of a MIG contract saved a Union Finance client from making a terrible mistake? The Woolwich says: "Union Finance is the reason some people now have these expectations. Our borrowers will be counselled out of any misconceptions they may have. But, if they still choose to believe Union Finance, that is up to them.

The society adds: "We don't see why customers would be suspicious that lenders have something to hide. Why should it be assumed that the reason is because we have something to hide?"

The Household Mortgage Corporation says, intriguingly: "We are not in the business of raising false hopes. If they ask for the contract, the answer must be no. It would be a waste of their time. It's like asking your employer to see their building insurance policy."

The Halifax says: "We never allow borrowers to see contracts. They contain commercially sensitive information. We've negotiated certain terms and don't necessarily want our competitors to see them.

"The fee used to be called a premium, but its name was changed early last year to an additional mortgage security fee to avoid confusion. It in no way relates specifically to a premium or contract."

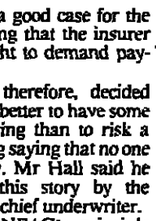
The Household Mortgage Corporation says: "We used to have premiums. Now we have a high percentage advance charge for loans over 75 per cent."

Several lenders have now decided to rename their MIG premiums.

Weekend Money is edited by Anne Ashworth

Four ways to have a flutter

INVESTMENT STRATEGY



ANTHONY HARRIS

These are trying times for those who like a sporting investment. On the turf the going is so heavy that form is an unreliable guide, and the markets look much the same. They offer one small consolation: no chance that the actual race will be scratched; but what can you back with any conviction? So you stick mainly (and wisely) to cash and short gilts. You can check that your medical insurance covers a jaw dislocated with yawning; or you can set aside a little silly money, and back rank outsiders, high-risk investments that might lose, or prove highly rewarding. Some are penny stocks, some far from it. This column lists four — not, please note, as tips, but because they illustrate the different ways you might choose to have a flutter.

The first, a buy-in-to-trouble play, is one of the world's four really big cement makers, on level capacity terms with Lafarge and Italcementi. The catch is that it is Mexican. Cemex is going to have a terrible year in its home market, where construction has nearly collapsed since the crisis. There is a safety net, though: half the company's revenue base is now outside Mexico. It is the biggest cement company in Spain, a big player in other Latin American markets, and has $500 million in US assets. Its strong suit is efficiency, with costs still being slashed. Its Achilles' heel is dollar debt that will cost over $1 billion this year in interest and repayments, but manageable on any reasonable scenario. The temptation is a share price below $4, down nearly 60 per cent from its recent peak, and a Barings recommendation.

The second is a bet that the sky won't fall — not a company, but Argentine government bonds. Bonds in a high-risk portfolio? Yes, when they are provisionally dollar-denominated, and now yield up to 30 per cent. The bet here is that Argentina, which has got its inflation down from telephone numbers to about 3 per cent, will stick to its current hair-shirt policies, following the route pioneered by Chile. This includes a currency board, which means that the peso is currently fully dollar-backed; the risk is mainly electoral. A bet on Menem, then: a handsome pay-off if he survives.

The third is a domestic game of follow-my-leader, and a penny share. Black & Edgington may sound familiar — you probably saw the name on the marquee at the last wedding you attended. But this is history: turnover has been falling like a stone, and profits reached vanishing point in 1993. The sole attraction is that Ian Gowrie-Smith and Nigel Wray, who have a loyal City fan club, have bought nearly 30 per cent. They built Medeva into a pharmaceutic success, and presumably intend to do something with B&E. Wait and see, then.

But a word about penny stocks. The price (in the 3p region for B&E) promises exciting volatily, since these shares move in 15 per cent steps; but dealing spreads are punishing. This is for a big rise, or nothing. The same applies, not so loud, to Verson, an engineering group, at about 15p. This one has profits all right: it is a price-earnings play.

Verson makes investment goods for motor factories, steel mills and can and drum-makers, here and in the US. Its weakness is its best-known name, Clearing International, which makes those huge presses you see in car factory pictures, but is desperately short of business. Its strengths: other businesses doing well, and a low-cost base, helped by dollar and sterling weakness. It has one contract to make big-name Japanese equipment, and hopes for more. The market has noticed the troubles more than the promise: hence a prospective p/e of six on very cautious official forecasts, may be much lower. Plenty of upside there.

So take your pick of strategy: obvious risk at frightened prices, a management bet, or a highly generous price-earnings ratio. Any could prove rewarding, and add a bit of spice to your daily reading. But patience, especially in penny stocks: and even then, only a stake you can afford to lose. Nobody naps outsiders.

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Jean Eaglesham finds that the compensation guidelines are being reviewed

Pension victims face more delays

People who were persuaded to move from their employer's pension scheme five or more years ago should seriously consider taking legal advice rather than relying on the review process set up by City watchdogs, according to solicitors acting for members of the GMB, one of Britain's largest trade unions.

This view emerges as the struggle between the insurance industry and its regulators over the estimated £2.5 billion compensation due to victims of bad advice on pensions grows more bad tempered. There are now fears that insurance companies may follow independent financial advisers into the courts in an attempt to avoid their compensation obligations.

The Independent Financial Advisers Association (IFAA), a trade association, has already won the right to a judicial review of the compensation guidelines drawn up by the Securities and Investments Board (SIB), the top watchdog. The case has stopped much of the compensation process in its tracks, with many firms becoming reluctant to offer compensation before the ruling.

The argument centres on what constitutes advice, as insurers attempt to redefine thousands of deals as "execution only". In such transactions, no advice was given to the customer, so there is virtually no redress for mis-selling.

The Prudential maintains that its salesmen were instructed not to give advice but to "give clients the information they needed whether to transfer out of their company schemes". David Linnell, of the Prudential, says that it was only from 1992, when the insurer had a new computer system to analyse transfers, that it would consider advising people *not* to transfer out.

Chris Matthews, of Equitable Life, says: "Our stance is that a lot of cases were execution only. If a client says you definitely gave me advice, we would say you have to prove it."

He said the fact that a representative had provided a quotation for a personal pension plan and completed a fact find for the customer, simply showed that information had been given to the client. Any complainant would have to provide evidence, such as a letter of recommendation, to prove advice was given before they were compensated.

This approach is in direct conflict with the SIB guidelines, which state that if a firm wants to rely on a transaction being execution only to avoid paying compensation, it has to prove that no advice was given, rather than the complainant showing the reverse.

A tough line on the issue is being taken by the Personal Investment Authority, which regulates the insurance companies. A statement of policy, published this week, essentially backs SIB's approach, stating that "a review of past pensions business is necessary and desirable in the interests of investors" and that "the scope of the review should be as set out in SIB's guidance". This makes it almost certain that the PIA will be joined with SIB in the judicial review action.

Worryingly, there are signs that some insurers may flout these regulatory guidelines in their internal reviews of cases.

The issue is critical, partly because the documentation for most pension transactions in the late Eighties and early Nineties is poor. Two years ago, the regulators tightened up the rules. Any requirement for individuals to prove that they were given advice could reduce the compensation bill.

Many firms hope that the judicial review will lead to the SIB's guidelines being ruled unlawful, so forcing a shift in the compensation process in favour of the industry.

Garry Heath, head of of the IFAA, says: "If the review goes ahead, a lot of independent advisers will go to the wall."



ALAN WELLER

Tracey Glester claims she acted purely on the advice of the insurance salesmen

Nurse with a grievance

Tracey Glester, a nurse in the National Health Service, feels "really let down and disillusioned" after encounters with various pension sales representatives left her with "life insurance coming up to my eyes".

Mrs Glester opted out of the NHS scheme into a Prudential personal pension plan in 1990; transferred the £2,000 plus she had left in the NHS scheme into a Sun Life of Canada policy two years' later; and then contracted out of the State pension scheme, Serps, into a Liverpool Victoria plan. Last year, she switched back into the NHS scheme on the Prudential's advice — but without the insurer admitting responsibility for any losses in her pension entitlement.

More than a year after she first complained to Prudential, it is unclear whether she will get compensation. The problems in resolving her complaint illustrate some of the wider difficulties besetting the pension transfers review.

Mrs Glester, who lives in Essex, is adamant that the two Prudential representatives who visited her in 1990 advised her to opt out: "I acted purely on their advice. They said that personal pension plans were much better than my scheme. I didn't realise that I would lose my employer's contribution to my pension [about double the employee's contribution in this case], and I wasn't aware of other benefits such as index-linking."

Prudential denies this, saying that its records show that its representatives did point out the benefits of the health service scheme, and that Mrs Glester decided to opt out of that particular scheme because she was thinking of changing jobs and wanted the flexibility of a personal pension.

The case, like many others, is still deadlocked. Prudential had hoped to start deciding on cases next month, but this is now on hold, pending the outcome of the judicial review of the regulators' guidelines on compensation.

TO SUE OR NOT TO SUE?

UNDER existing guidelines, firms have up to two years to deal with complaints and until the end of next year to review some of the priority cases.

However, Ringrose Wharton, a firm of Bristol solicitors, says consumers could lose the right to take action for breach of contract if they wait more than six years from when they were advised to transfer, and lose a separate right to sue under the Financial Services Act if they wait more than three years after they become aware, or should have become aware, that the advice given broke the Act's rules.

Neil Stevens, of Ringrose Wharton, says that legal action is usually worth considering only by people who have been advised to opt out of a company scheme, where the compensation due is greatest.

Of pension transfer firms contacted, only Pearl and Standard Life were prepared to confirm that they would not rely on the time limitations. Prudential said that "giving a blanket waiver for ever is something that we would not want to get into", while Allied Dunbar said it "would treat each case on its merits". TSB said that it was taking legal advice on the issue, and National & Provincial said it was too early to talk about time limits while the judicial review was still pending.

An SIB spokesman cautioned against widespread legal action by policyholders, emphasising the cost and delay of doing so, and pointing out that anyone who was unhappy with the outcome of their complaint retained the right to go to the ombudsman.

SIB believes that the courts would be unlikely to uphold the six-year time limitation, provided the policyholder had complained to the firm already, while Greg Osbourne, of Crown Insurers, feels a time bar of 15 years is more likely.

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Societies must learn to play the game



ANNE ASHWORTH
Personal Finance Editor

Building societies must now be on their best behaviour. Granted almost their every wish by a munificent Treasury yesterday, they must start to learn what accountability to their members really means.

One useful first lesson would be to tackle obsolete and out-of-date accounts, closed to new customers but brimming over with money left by the original investors.

The continued existence of these accounts robs savers of £800 million in interest every year. Each guilty society should now sweep each obsolete penny into new accounts. No excuses, please, that you will be thought highhanded.

Next, societies should begin to deal properly with members' requests for information. As our negative-equity report (page 29) reveals, borrowers seeking details of mortgage indemnity policies for which they paid the premiums meet either silence, or condescension. This attitude is not only inappropriate: it is also dangerous.

The secrecy encourages borrowers to believe that they may have some right to claim on these policies, probably a vain hope since the intention was to cover the lender's losses, not those of the homebuyer. But if this is the case, then why should the societies continue to refuse to give access to the documents?

Privately, the societies abhor the firms which promise borrowers that they can use these policies to flee the negative-equity trap. But the societies are themselves merely perpetuating the myth.

Legal & General now says that it will allow borrowers sight of its policies, if the societies will agree. Giving their consent would be the first step towards accountability. We await their response with interest.

The Government has commissioned consultants to go round Britain talking to divorcees.

The aim is, apparently, to collect information on how pensions are being apportioned on divorce. Or not, as is most often the case.

Ministers claim that all the data currently available is "anecdotal". This is another way of saying that the ex-wives who have already spoken out about their lack of pension rights are a tiny unrepresentative minority. Elsewhere couples have been, for years, dividing the pension spoils, without the need for clear cut legal guidelines.

This may be true of civilised marital splits among the monneyed classes, which now have actuaries in attendance. But when middle-income couples part in early middle-age, the husband will seldom have enough spare cash to compensate his homemaker wife for the loss of his pension.

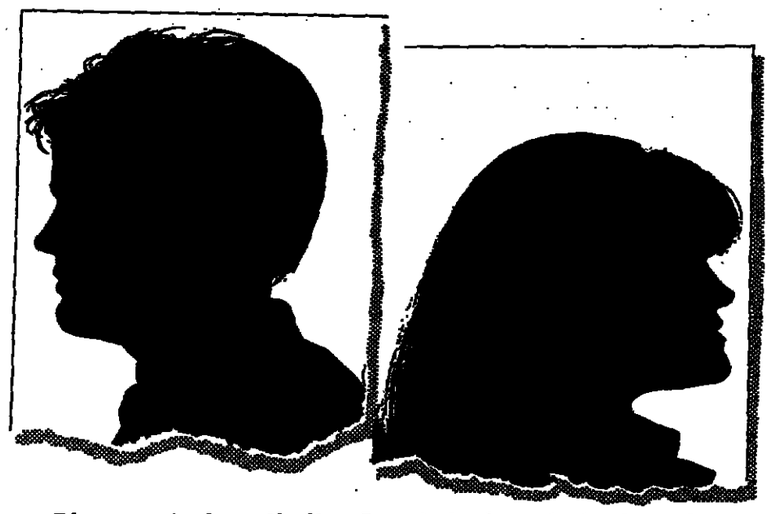
By conducting research, rather than amending the law, ministers are prevaricating. It seems they are plagued with visions of professional men marching on Whitehall and committing civil disobedience, rather than see their pensions reduced.

As we report below, pressure for reform is building from unusual quarters. We have had several calls this week from men who want to split their pensions with their ex-wives but who would like the law to lay down a procedure.

Meanwhile, the divorced wives survey will serve very well as source material for a gritty TV series.

Fight is on to provide for ex-wives

Pension assets must split, campaigners are arguing. **Anne Ashworth** reports



Divorce can deprive a wife of benefits under her former husband's pension

There is now increasing pressure on the Government finally to resolve the vexed issue of pension rights for divorced wives. All-party support is growing within the Commons and in the House of Lords for an amendment to the Pensions Bill, allowing pension assets to be split when couples separate, a solution supported by matrimonial lawyers.

If the Government remains unbending, campaigners in the Lords are ready to force a vote to the Pensions Bill when it reaches its report stage on March 14. One of their number, Baroness Hollis, Labour's social security spokesman has, in the past few days, received dozens of letters and calls in support of her stand for divorced wives.

The reforming zeal now spreading through Parliament has been spurred by reports in *The Times* on the plight of the wife who devotes her life to home and family, while her husband pursues his career and accumulates a pension, but who, when her marriage collapses, loses the automatic right to a share in this often considerable asset. Ill-equipped to find employment paying enough to live on and save for a pension, she can face an impoverished old age, dependent on the State.

The Times began to highlight the issue three years ago. On January 14 this year, we detailed the groundswell of opinion gathering for a change in the law. On February 14, we detailed the case of Anne Brooks, the 56-year-old Berkshire housewife who has come to symbolise the deserted woman struggling to gain a share of her spouse's pension. Although the Court of Appeal ruled that she should receive a portion of his £500,000 pension, her estranged husband, Douglas Brooks, will be appealing against this decision in the House of Lords in April.

At present, ministers wish to make only limited changes to the rules, rather than establishing a new system for treatment of pensions on divorce.

Earlier this week, during the Lords committee stage of the Pensions Bill, Lord Mackay of Ardbrecknish, the Social Security Minister, proposed that judges be required to "place greater emphasis on the need for pension rights when considering financial provision on divorce". The minister envisaged an amendment to the Matrimonial Causes Act, which already mentions the need to consider pensions.

However, the battalion of baronesses fighting for reform, led by Baroness Young, the former Conservative leader in the Lords, want nothing less than an amendment to the Pensions Bill, requiring pensions to be divided on divorce.

Matrimonial lawyers, such as Claire Meltzer, of the London firm Collyer-Bristow, also take this view. She says: "The courts must have the power to split pensions for the sake of couples whose wealth is tied up in pensions and have few other assets of any value and little cash, such as senior civil servants.

"You might argue that the man should be required to give his ex-wife a greater share of the house to reflect the pension rights which she is losing. But this would impoverish him, something the courts would be unwilling to do."

Lady Hollis believes that there is some fear that the splitting of pensions would be extremely complicated. However, as she points out, whenever anyone leaves a pension scheme, they receive a transfer value of their benefits invested in the funds. The courts would use this figure. Geoffrey Bernstein, a leading actuary who advises in many complex pension cases resulting from divorces, confirms that there would be no hidden complexities in using this formula.

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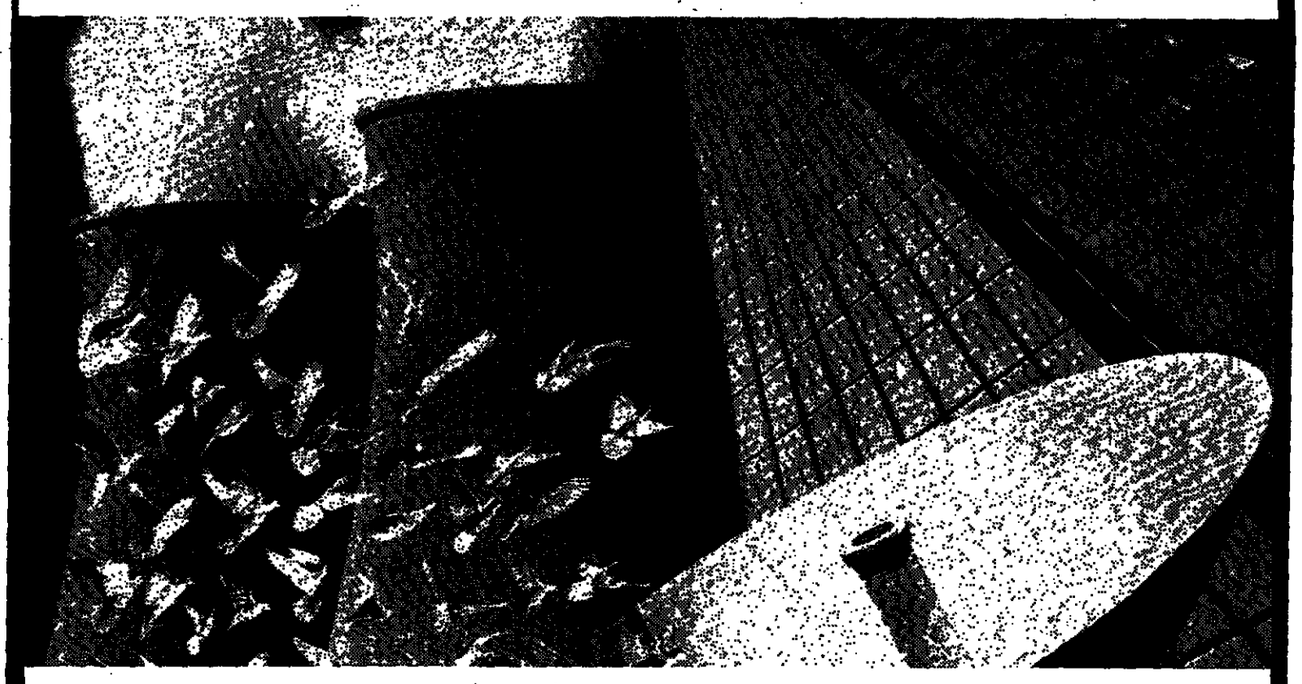
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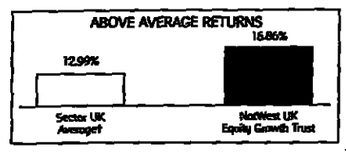
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Europe		
TR European Growth Trust PLC	IT*	1st out of 12 funds over 3 years
HTR European Special Situations	UT*	1st out of 78 funds over 7 years
Far East		
TR Pacific Investment Trust PLC	IT	1st out of 9 funds over 1 year
HTR Pacific Smaller Companies	UT	1st out of 6 funds since launch (1/11/79)
International		
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PERI TI 25/2 4490

The cost of transferring funds from Britain is starting to drop, reports **Sara McConnell**

Europe gets wired for money

Breaking down the barriers in Europe is slow work, as anyone who has tried to send money overseas will testify. Charges are often high and unpredictable, the money can take up to a week to arrive and the cost of converting the funds to local currency depletes the sum originally sent.

Unfortunately, the last difficulty will be impossible to avoid until all European countries share a single currency. But there are signs that European banks, including our own, have taken to heart the criticisms of Sir Leon Brittan, Vice-President of the European Commission, that the transfer of funds across European borders is both expensive and inefficient. The cost and the time transfers take are starting to fall.

From Monday, Lloyds Bank customers will be able to send up to £3,000 to any bank in France, Germany, Spain, the Irish Republic, The Netherlands, Norway, Denmark and Sweden.

A transfer will cost £9, which can be paid either by the sender or the receiver, or split between them. For the first time, Lloyds can guarantee that no extra charges will be added by the receiver's bank, because these are included in the £9.

Charges can come as a shock to people receiving money from abroad, and British banks often do not know how much their continental counterparts will ask for.

Funds sent through Lloyds Bank's Moneymover system will take between three and seven working days to arrive, depending on the speed of the clearing system in the country to which it is sent.

Branches should be able to tell you how many days money will take to get to its destination. But you can use Moneymover only if the person or organisation to whom you are sending the money has a bank account in the country concerned. The £9 fee does not include the cost of converting the money into local currency.

The Co-operative Bank will now be able to transfer funds to Spain through its TIPA-NET system. TIPA-NET, which stands for Transferts Interbancaires de Paiements Automatisés, was set up nearly three years ago by a group of banks with similar co-operative origins. It already handles transfers to and from France, Belgium, Germany, Italy and Canada.

The Co-operative Bank charges a flat fee of £5 for all destinations. It pledges to get up to £2,500 to its destination in not more than four working days. The service may be used even if you are not a customer of the bank, or if you want to send money to a bank that is not part of TIPA-NET.



If you are left with only bread and cheese in Spain, getting money from home is now cheaper and quicker

■ **Barclays** charges £18 for a telegraphic transfer of less than £5,000, £28 for a £10,000 transfer and a maximum of £38 for more than £10,000. This is the fastest way of getting funds to a bank overseas either to an account or to be picked up in cash. The transfer takes two to four days. Less urgent funds may be sent by international money order (IMO) or currency draft, which go by post and thus depend on the vagaries of the international postal system. It costs £7 to send up an IMO of up to £1,000, which is denominated in sterling. The cost of a currency draft, in the currency of the country to which the funds are going, is £12 for up to £5,000. Whoever is receiving the money normally needs a bank account, but the receiving bank may cash it for a fee. Customers may also arrange international payment orders costing £23 for up to £10,000. They go by Swift mail, take between two days and a week and the recipient does not need a bank account. Receiving banks will also charge an unknown sum for handling the transfer.

■ **NatWest** last year started offering its customers the facility, through its Relay service, to transfer up to £2,000 for a fixed fee of £9. This includes the receiving bank's fees and currency conversion costs. The transfer takes up to six days and the recipient must have a bank account. Customers may also wire urgent money through the Swift network, which should get to any European country by the next day. This costs £12 for up to £250, £18 for between £250 and £7,500, and £25 for between £7,500 and £25,000. The recipient does not need to have a bank account abroad. If funds are less urgent, they can go by standard transfer, which costs up to £24 for up to £25,000. This should still arrive the next day in Europe. The receiving bank will almost certainly charge fees if money is wired in this way.

■ **Midland** charges a maximum of £35 for transferring unlimited amounts of money electronically in three to four days from one bank account to another. If the recipient has a bank account, the Midland will transfer up to £2,000 for a fee of £8 which also covers foreign bank charges. This transfer, under the bank's World Pay system, takes three to six days. Transferring money to someone who does not have a bank account may be done through the post, which costs between £12 and £35.

BRIEFINGS

Bargain-hunters who use the latest affinity credit-card the Barnado Visa (introductory APR 14.9 per cent, rising to 18.9 per cent) will donate money to Barnado's when their account is opened and each time the card is used. The card, issued in conjunction with Beneficial Bank, does not have an annual fee and gives up to eight weeks' free credit. For details, call 0800 161162.

■ The Bank of Scotland has redesigned its Money Market Business Cheque Account, which is intended for all sizes and types of business. Customers will be offered interest rates on credit balances of up to 6.5 per cent gross, instant access, and a freephone service. The bank says that its transaction charges will be competitive, with 20 free cheques a month and a 20p per cheque charge thereafter, provided that a credit balance of £2,500 is maintained. Call 0500 828 000.

■ The Birmingham Midshires Building Society is joining forces with its insurance partner, Sun Life, to increase contributions for new pension customers, which will benefit their final pension fund by an average of more than £500. Should you take out a new monthly premium pension by April 13, the first three months of your contributions will be doubled. The offer applies to company pension members and those who rely on the State pension or who do not have any provision for retirement. Call 0272 446664.

■ Insurance Selection, an independent service that advises drivers on where best to seek their motor insurance, has launched a system that will save customers' time. After a series of short questions, customers will be given the names of three companies most likely to offer them the best terms, together with an estimate of the premium they should expect to pay. The service costs £1.50 per minute, and few calls last even as long as four minutes. Call 0171-639 9734.

Brought down to earth by cheques theft

IF ONLY Patrick Moore had read it in the stars, then he might have been able to stop the thief. But Mr Moore is an astronomer, not an astrologer, so he was taken completely by surprise when his traveller's cheques were stolen while he was scanning the sky on a trip to Tacna, north Peru.

Mr Moore left his coat on the front seat of a bus when he and a party of fellow astronomers stepped out to observe an eclipse of the Sun. With people so close to the bus, he felt certain that his belongings were safe. A thief leapt inside the bus and made off with Mr Moore's coat, along with his cameras, traveller's cheques and other personal items.

Mr Moore said: "It was most annoying. Everybody was looking on, but no one stopped him. Some people are just boneheads."

But all was not lost. Four days later, on returning home to the UK, he faxed the American Express Refund Centre, which provided him with a full refund of his traveller's cheques within two days. "It was dealt with very quickly and very easily," he said.

American Express aims to replace traveller's cheques within 24 hours, delivered by courier if need be.

If you lose your Amex card, temporary replacements are obtainable from Amex travel offices within 24 hours — or delivered by courier in more remote areas. Emergency cash of up to £250 is available to tide you over while you wait. If you have lost your cheque book, this will be sent by courier.

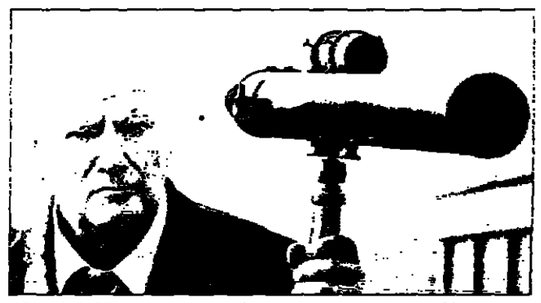
Barclays says that lost traveller's cheques reported in this country would be replaced "almost immediately".

Barclays' customers will, in most tourist centres, normally be able to pick up replacements "within hours", so long as they can provide full details when they report the loss, it says.

Replacement Barclaycards are sent by special courier, free of charge. This normally takes two to three days, but emergency cash up to £500 is available in the interim.

Thomas Cook tries to replace all lost traveller's cheques within 24 hours. If the customer is not near a bank and needs the money quickly, a special courier service is provided.

MORAG PRESTON



Patrick Moore: victim of an opportunistic thief in Peru

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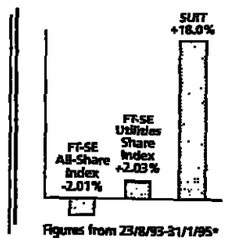
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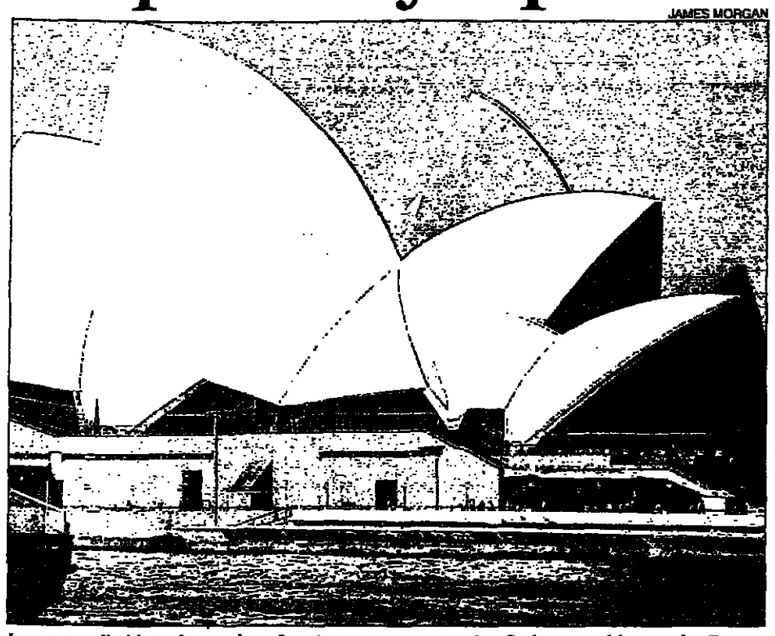
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Game for a short punt in run-up to Olympics?

Robert Miller looks at the prospects for the Australian stock market

JAMES MORGAN



Investors piled into the market after the announcement that Sydney would stage the Games

Australia could not have wished for a better start to the millennium than to be hosting the Olympic Games. History shows that stock markets in countries that have staged the Games enjoy a good run before the opening ceremony as they get more and more attention in the build-up.

This lesson might provide a small crumb of comfort to investors who piled into the market after the announcement of Sydney's successful bid.

According to figures from Micropal, in the year to the beginning of this week, the four unit trusts listed under the Australasia sector are nursing average losses of nearly 40 per cent. The one investment trust, NM Smaller Australian Companies, has fared even worse. It is down by more than 35 per cent.

So can history repeat itself for the Australian market? Richard Phillipson, of Friends Provident's asset management arm which runs NM's unit trusts, including Australasian in 1993, says that Australia is caught in the same economic and interest rate cycle as America and Britain. As the US Federal Reserve has raised its interest rates, so too has Australia.

Mr Phillipson explains: "Short-term interest rates in Australia have risen quite sharply in recent months. The Government is keen to keep the lid on what have been fairly strong inflationary pressures. UK investors have also suffered from a currency loss so, all in all, they are more than 6 per cent down since the start of the year."

Australia is blessed with more mineral and natural resources than most. However, in the short term, that has proved to be a big disadvantage in stock market terms. According to Mr Phillipson, the Australian metals and minerals sector has fallen by 18 per cent in sterling terms since the start of the year, against a 6.5 per cent drop in the Australia all-share ordinary index. But that is the bad news.

On the bright side, Australia is located in a region of emerging and vibrant young economies. Mr Phillipson points out that Australia's GDP growth this year is estimated at about 4 per cent while its Asian neighbours and trading partners are expecting twice that growth.

John Kelly, a director of BZW Investment Management, adds that while the emerging economies of the Pacific region will undoubtedly need much of the raw materials produced by Australia, the real powerhouse of the future is China.

He says: "Within the next 30 years, China will be the world's biggest economy. Much of the raw material needed for its growth will come from Australia. But for years the natural resources sector in Australia has suffered from a lack of investment. That will change. The huge outflows of funds from the stock market, which we have seen in recent months, is simply short-term profit-taking and we may even see more before the market starts to bottom out."

Mr Kelly argues that as the main supplier of materials to South East Asia, whether for buildings, roads, iron, steel, copper or zinc, Australia is benefiting from the growth in the region generally.

He also points out that ten years ago Australia was the fashionable market to be in. But it has since been overtaken by other investment success stories, such as the strong growth in emerging markets, particularly in Latin America, a popular theme of the past few years.

In terms of size, the Australian stock market shares second place in the Pacific region with Hong Kong, both trailing Japan. But Australia is dominated by its resources sector in a way that the other stock markets are not. This can make it very vunerable to shifts in sentiment about world commodities in general.

The alternative to an Australian fund for an exposure to commodities is one of those listed under the commodity and energy sector. These have the advantage of providing a geographical spread and could be a hedge against domestic influences in Australia. Nevertheless, in the run-up to the Olympics it might just be worth taking a small punt on the Australian market. But remember the last chapter in the history lesson. After the Olympic circus has packed up, stock markets tend to fall away again, as they did after the Barcelona Games.

Robert Miller was highly commended in the 1994 AUTIF/Barclays unit trust consumer journalist of the year awards

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For example, on an estate of £400,000 (including house, contents, personal effects, stocks and shares, bonds, trusts, cash, life assurance and any inheritances) the Exchequer stands to be an equal beneficiary. If there were three children they would each get £100,000 but the Exchequer would also take £100,000.

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Note: levels and bases of, and reliefs from, taxation are subject to change.

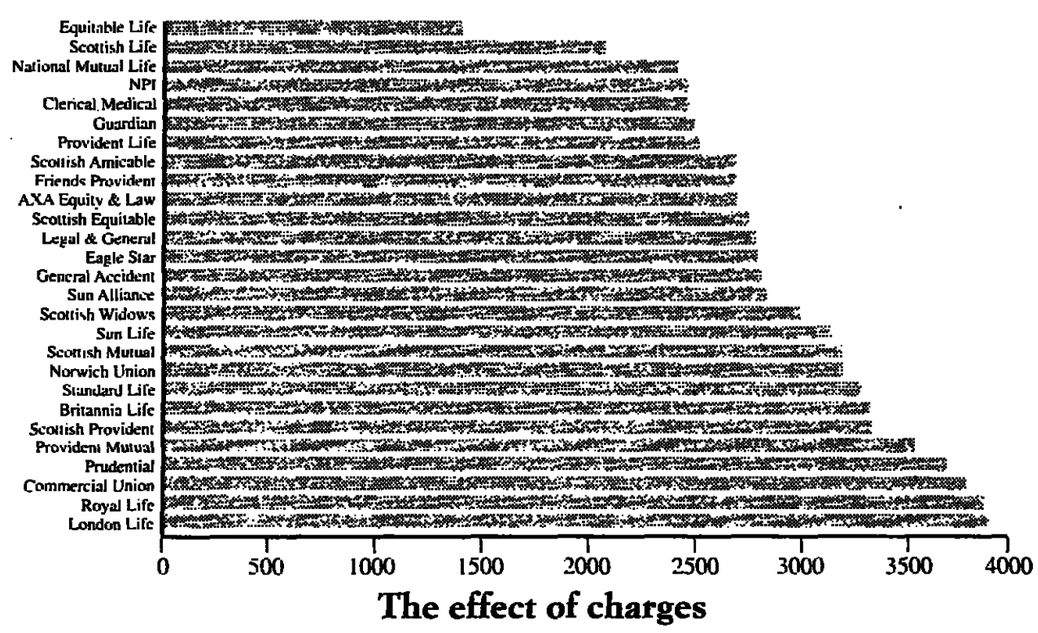
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The international rating agency Standard & Poor affirmed its AA (Excellent) rating of the Society, commenting "... S&P regards capital strength as excellent, while investment performance over recent years has continued to be strong."

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TRUST WATCH

TRUST managers love new launches. It gives them a chance to pull in a great deal of extra money that, in time, will generate useful annual fee income. Last year was a record one for investment trust launches, which collectively pulled in £8 billion, more than double the previous year. Of course, 1994 differed from others in that it was dominated by three mega-launches.

Kleinwort Benson and Mercury European Privatisation trusts between them attracted more than £1 billion. To date neither has sparkled.

On the other hand, investors in 3i, formerly Investors in Industry, which floated last summer to become the only investment trust in the FT-SE 100 index of top 100 companies, have fared much better.

According to Robin Angus, a director of NatWest Securities and one of the most respected investment trust analysts, 3i is the best performing company in the index since its launch. Mr Angus adds, however, that in a sense 3i was very much a one-off.

In general, he says: "You cannot invest in a new trust for a quick killing. The great majority of new launches these days are specialist trusts. You invest in them either because you want to or need to because they are fulfilling a need in your portfolio. Many investors have some money in emerging markets which have performed horribly over the past few months, but those investments are there to do a job over the long term."

Even in pure statistical terms, investment trusts have to be considered for inclusion in a well-diversified portfolio. For example, outside the top 100 companies, investment trusts account for nearly 20 per cent of the FT-SE Mid-250 index.

However, picking the right trust is not always easy, as NatWest Securities acknowledged in its annual review of the sector published this week.

It says that with more than 100 investment trust companies being launched in the past five years alone, the time has come "for a major rethink of the way in which we research the sector". But it concludes that investment trusts have made great strides in attracting new investors.

ROBERT MILLER

THE TIMES MONEY INFORMATION SERVICE

Income bonds offer safe return

GUARANTEED income bonds are not for gamblers, or other high-risk junkies. But, thousands of savers snap them up each week, secure in the knowledge that their capital is safe and that they will also receive a guaranteed income over a set period, fixed at the outset.

Most people buy bonds with a life cycle of between one and five years. "It would be silly to go for longer as you can never tell what will happen to interest rates over the longer term," says Martyn Laverick, fixed rate specialist at Chamberlain de Broë, the financial adviser based in Bath.

When prevailing interest rates are high, a five-year bond can be a good investment. Those maturing at the moment have been providing bondholders with a juicy income of between 10 and 11 per cent, while other savers' rates have been falling fast.

But, in the current climate, shorter terms look more attractive. Two-year bonds are actually offering higher rates than those lasting three or four years. "We would certainly say that it is a foolish time to buy anything over two years at the moment," Mr Laverick says.

Two-year bonds currently offer fixed rates of about 7 per cent, while those over three and four years offer 6.65 per cent and 6.5 per cent respectively. Over five years, the rate increases to 7.4 per cent, but the life of these bonds stretches into uncharted post-election territory.

Income may be taken monthly or annually, the former at a slightly lower rate, or it can be rolled up in the fund to collect extra interest.

Higher rate taxpayers who expect to become basic rate payers after retirement can gain extra mileage by investing in bonds that mature on, or after, their retirement date. By leaving the income to roll up in the fund until maturity, they will then only have to pay basic rate tax on the interest.

Watch out for hidden charges that could swallow up part of your income. If the company that sells you the bond is taking commission, you will receive a lower rate of income than if you opt for a fee-based service.

Chamberlain de Broë, for instance, charges £25 per bond, however much you invest. The commission it receives from the insurance company that issues the bond is then added to the investor's capital.

LIZ DOLAN

SAVERS' BEST BUYS

INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Yorkshire BS 0800 378836	1st Class Acc	Postal	£1,000	6.20	Yl
Skipton BS 01756 700511	3 High Street	Instant	£2,000	6.25	Yly
Britannia BS 01538 391741	Capital Trust	Postal	£10,000	6.50	Yly

FIXED RATES	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Halifax BS 01422 333333	Guaranteed Rsrv	2yr bond	£2,000	8.10	F/Yly
Britannia BS 0800 269655	3 year Fixed	3yr bond	£2,000	8.75	F/Yly
Cooperative Bank 0800 125100	Fixed Rate Bond	3yr bond	£2,000	9.25	OM
Bristol & West BS 0117 9294271	Fixed Rate Bond	5yr bond	£5,000	8.70	F/Mly

TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Sun Banking Corp 01438 744500		5 year	£8,900	9.00	F/Yly
Hinckley & Rugby BS 01455 251234		5 year	£3,000 A	7.65	Yly
Market Harborough BS 01858 463244		5 year	£9,000	7.75	Yly
Dunfermline BS 01383 627727		5 year	£3,000	7.50	Yly

CREDIT CARDS BEST BUYS

	Card type	Interest per month	APR%	Fee per annum
Robert Fleming S&P 0800 282101	MasterCard/Visa	1.00%	14.60%	£12
Royal Bank of Scotland 01702 349393	MasterCard	1.14%	14.50%	Nil C
Alliance & Leicester 0500 900250	Visa	1.375%	18.90%	£10 E

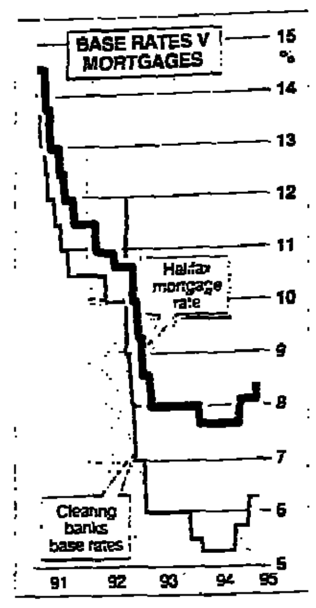
PERSONAL LOANS BEST BUYS

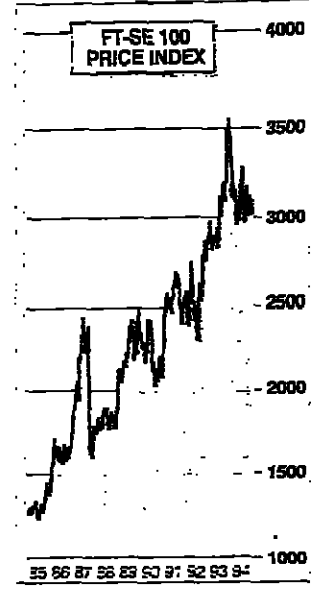
	APR	Monthly payment on £3,000 for 3yrs with insurance	no insurance
Clydesdale Bank 0141 223 2216	16.20%	£113.94	£103.33
Midland Bank 0345 180180	15.40%	£116.54	£103.14
N&P BS 0800 808080	15.50%	£118.22	£103.29
Abbey National 01908 680140	15.90%	£115.81	£103.77

Nb. A - Feeder account required. In the interest paid columns, C = no interest free period D = annual fee rebated £1.5K+ charged per annum E = Annual fee waived for 1st year for new accounts F = fixed rate (all other rates are variable); OM denotes interest paid on maturity

* RATES SHOWN ARE GROSS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE PLEASE CHECK RATES BEFORE INVESTING

Source: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates (01692 500 665)





NATIONAL SAVINGS

	Gross rate	At tax rates 25%	40%	Min/maximum investment £	Notice	Contact
Ordinary A/c¹	2.00	1.50	1.20	10-10,000		01416494556
Investment A/c* ₆	5.25	3.94	3.15	20-500	1mth	01416494555
Income Bond* ₆	6.50	4.88	3.90	2,000-24,999	3mth	01253786151
First Opt Bond₄	6.40	4.80	3.84	1,000-250,000		01416362558
42nd Issue Certf₂₃	5.85			100-10,000	8day	01913864900
Yearly Plan†₃	5.85			20-400/mth	14day	01913864900
Children's Bond†	7.86			25-1,000	1mth	01416362535
Gen Ext Rate	3.51					
Capital Bonds ₆	7.75	5.81	4.65	100-250,000	8day	01416362558
8th Index Linked†₃	3.00			100-10,000	8day	01913864900
Pensnrs Bond S2 ₆	7.50	5.63	4.50	500-20,000₅	60day	01253786151

¹ First £70 (£140 joint) of int tax free, inst acces for up to £100 ² Additional hldgs up to £20,000 for reinvested proceeds † Tax free * Rates gross and variable. Guaranteed when held for 5 years ⁶ Taxable but cred in full ³ 3% net bonus for £20,000+ (£40,000 if in addition to £1 holdings)

PENSION ANNUITIES

All figures are the gross annual annuity (£100,000 purchase), guaranteed 5 years, paid monthly in advance

SINGLE LIFE (level ann)	Male: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Equit Life............Level	£10,970	£12,004	£13,330
Comm Union ....Level	£10,412	£11,682	£13,342
Can Life..............Level	£10,628	£11,780	£13,344
Sun Life Ca..........Level	£10,621	£11,852	£13,011
Generali ....Level	£10,692	£11,706	£13,032

SINGLE LIFE	Female: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Nor Union ....Level	£9,933	£10,743	£11,862
Equitable ....Level	£9,933	£10,743	£11,862
Can Life ....Level	£9,813	£10,635	£11,847
Generali ....Level	£9,805	£10,636	£11,792
Prudential............Level	£9,814	£10,538	£11,606

JOINT LIFE, 2/3 WIDOWS (level annuity)	Male: Age 60 / Female: Age 55	Age 65 / Age 60	Age 70 / Age 65
Nrwch Uni ....Lev	£9,606	£10,143	£10,924
Equitable ....Level	£9,549	£10,163	£11,008
Can Life ....Level	£9,410	£10,052	£10,968
Prudential.............Level	£9,429	£9,989	£10,779
Generali ....Level	£9,463	£10,067	£10,906

Source: Annuity Direct (071 375 1175)

Compiled by: Morag Preston

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS

ANNUAL INCOME
Rates as at February 22, 1995

	Investment (£)	Company	Stadard Rate (%)
1 Year	1,000	Premium Life	5.50
	5,000	AIG Life	6.00
	10,000	AIG Life	6.20
	20,000	AIG life	6.30
	50,000	AIG Life	6.35
	100,000	AIG Life	6.40
	250,000	AIG Life	6.45
2 Years	1,000	Premium Life	6.30
	5,000	AIG Life	6.60
	10,000	AIG life	6.80
	20,000	AIG Life	7.00
	50,000	AIG Life	7.05
	100,000	AIG Life	7.10
	250,000	AIG Life	7.15
3 Years	1,000	Premium Life	6.40
	5,000	AIG Life	6.45
	10,000	AIG Life	6.55
	20,000	AIG Life	6.65
	50,000	AIG Life	6.75
	100,000	AIG Life	6.80
	250,000	AIG Life	6.85
4 Years	1,000	Premium Life	6.50
	20,000	Gan Life	6.50
	50,000	Gan Life	6.60
5 Years	1,000	Premium Life	6.60
	5,000	Scottish Widows	7.76

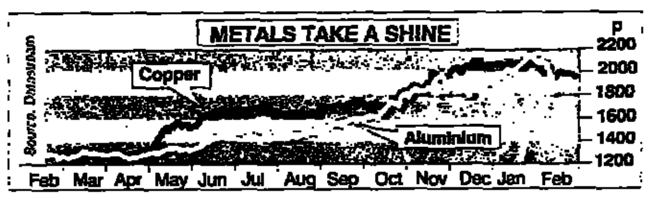
Source: Chamberlain de Broë 01225 483636. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Vary terms. Monthly income may be available.

PIBS

FIXED RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	% Gross yield	Issue price	Minimum purchase amount
Birmingham Midshires	9.375%	89.00	10.527	100.17	1,000
Bradford & Bingley	11.625%	113.00	10.288	100.13	10,000
Bradford & Bingley	13.000%	125.50	10.359	100.20	10,000
Bristol & West	13.375%	127.00	10.531	100.34	1,000
Britannia	13.000%	123.75	10.505	100.42	1,000
Cheltenham & Glos	11.750%	116.50	10.186	100.96	50,000
Coventry	12.125%	104.25	10.596	100.75	1,000
First National	11.750%	103.25	11.271	100.25	10,000
Halifax	8.750%	88.00	9.943	100.62	50,000
Halifax	12.000%	118.50	10.127	100.28	50,000
Leeds Permanent	13.625%	136.25	10.000	100.00	50,000
Leeds & Holbeck	13.375%	126.00	10.615	100.23	1,000
Newcastle	10.750%	101.875	10.552	100.32	1,000
Newcastle	12.625%	121.25	10.412	100.45	1,000
Northern Rock	12.625%	120.25	10.499	100.14	1,000
Skipton	12.875%	121.75	10.575	100.48	1,000

FLOATING RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	Issue price	Minimum purchase
First National	8.9875%	101.00	100.00	1,000
Cheshire	8.8854%	102.75	100.00	1,000

PIBS = Permanent interest-bearing shares
Source: Hoare Govett - 0171 601 0101



LARGER LENDERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Bradford & Bingley 0800 252 993	3.15	£15k+	75	5.3% discount for 12 months
Britannia 0800 526350	3.15	£40k+	80	5.29% discount to 2.1.96
Northern Rock 0800 591 500	2.49	to £150k	90	6.05% discount to 1.5.96
Banks				
Abbey National Local branch	3.59	£60k+	60	4.75% discount to 29.2.96
NatWest Home Loans 0121 234 8013	3.60	£120k+	75	4.75% discount for 1 year

LARGER LOANS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Coventry 01203 839333	2.00	to £125k	75	6.49% disc-12 mnths
Hinckley & Rugby 0455 251234	1.50	to £150k	60	Rate fixed to 1.1.96
Yorkshire 0274 740740	1.44	£25-£150k	95	7% disc-6 mnths 5% disc-6 mnths
Banks				
Bank of Ireland 0734 510100	3.40	£20-210k	90	5.10% discount to 1.4.96
NYPO - MSL 0344 394000	2.76	£15,001-£500k+	90	5.59% discount to 1.3.96

FIRST-TIME BUYERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Britannia 0800 526350	2.90	to £100k	80	5.45% to 2.1.96
Scarborough 0800 590547	1.50	£35-£150k	95	6.95%-6 months 2% for 1 year
Skipton 0800 590545	2.24	to £150k	95	6%-5 months then 1.75% for 1 year
Banks				
B of Scotland 0132 556 8555	3.94	£15k-150k	95	4.50% discount to 31.1.96
Lloyds Local Branch	3.60	£60K+	95	4.75% for 1 year

Larger lenders, larger loans and first-time buyers tables supplied by Blay's Guides Ltd. Further information: Blay's Guides, 01753 880482.

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	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE Aegon House, Lanark Square, London E14 9XS 0171 538 8900				
Balanced	446.40	472.40	-2.60	
UK Equity	559.40	591.00	-2.10	
Property	487.90	516.30	+0.60	...
Fixed Interest	313.90	332.30		...
Money	252.60	267.40	+0.10	
International	362.40	383.50	-7.90	
ABBEY LIFE Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth BH8 8AL 01202 292373				
Property Fd Inc	279.20	293.40	-0.10	
-do- Acc	527.40	555.20	+0.10	..
Equity Fd Inc	162.20	170.80	-0.50	0.0
-do- Acc	216.40	227.90	-0.90	0.0
Selective Fd	483.40	508.90	+0.10	0.0
Money Fd	380.70	400.80	+0.30	.
Prop Fd Ser 4	411.10	432.80		..
Equity Ser 4	209.20	220.30	-0.50	..
Man Ser 4	643.00	676.90	-2.50	0.0
Conv Ser 4	330.90	348.40	+0.20	...
Money Ser 4	330.60	348.10	+0.30	..
Fixed Int Ser 4	344.20	362.40	+2.40	0.0
American Ser 4	482.20	507.60	-1.40	0.0
High Inc Ser 4	657.60	692.30	-3.00	0.0
Indexed Inv Ser 4	207.70	218.70	+0.70	0.0
Japan Ser 4	327.40	344.70	-6.00	0.0
ALBANY LIFE 3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ 01707 42311				
Equity Fd Acc	£14.71	£15.48	-8.80	.
European Fd Acc	360.30	379.30	-0.40	..
Fixed Int Acc	498.70	524.90	+2.50	...
Gtd Money Acc	337.20	354.90	+0.20	..
Intl Managed Acc	576.40	606.70	-0.50	..
Int Fxd Int Acc	318.50	335.20	+0.30	...
Japan Fund	235.90	248.30	-6.00	...
N American Acc	311.20	327.50	-1.30	..
Prop Fd Acc	446.70	470.20	+0.40	...
Multiple Inv Acc	982.90	£10.34	-5.70	...
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE Swindon SN1 1EL 01793 514514				
Fxd Int Dep Acc	375.30	395.10	+0.30	...
Equity Acc	£13.40	£14.10	-9.70	..
Property Acc	585.50	616.40	+0.40	...
Far East Acc	289.20	304.50	-3.70	...
Managed Capital	506.20	532.90	-3.00	...
-do- Acc	£10.42	£10.97	-5.90	...
Overseas Acc	889.40	936.30	-8.60	..
Gilt Edged Acc	475.40	500.50	+1.50	...
Amer Equity Acc	763.90	804.20	+1.00	...
Amer Man Acc	325.70	342.90	+0.30	..
Amer Prop Acc	115.20	121.30	-0.20	..
AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks 01494 463463				
Reserve Ser 6	157.90	166.20	+0.20	...
Balcd Ser 6	690.10	726.40	-3.30	...
Opportunity Ser 6	154.40	162.50	-1.10	...
Distribution Ser 6	95.80	100.80	-0.10	7.28
UK Equities Ser 6	935.80	985.00	-1.70	...
Higher Inc Ser 6	£10.07	£10.60	-7.90	...
North Amer Ser 6	440.60	463.70	-4.20	..
Far East Ser 6	531.10	559.00	-6.60	...
Europe Ser 6	362.40	381.40	-0.60	...
Intnl Ser 6	535.70	563.80	-4.50	...
Property Ser 6	579.60	610.10	...	...
Fixed Int Ser 6	430.10	452.70	+0.80	...
Ind-Lnkd Sec S6	177.60	186.90	+0.60	...
Gteed Dep Ser 6	298.50	314.20	+0.30	...
BARCLAYS LIFE 252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB 0181 534 5544				
Equity Acc	804.10	846.50	-2.70	...
-do- Initial	526.50	554.20	-3.40	...
Gilt Edged Acc	374.00	393.70	+0.30	...
-do- Initial	247.00	260.10	-0.60	...
International Acc	377.90	397.80	-2.40	...
-do- Initial	248.00	261.10	-2.40	...
Managed Acc	501.20	527.60	-1.70	...
-do- Initial	330.10	347.50	-2.20	...
Money Acc	293.20	308.70	+0.30	...
Property Acc	306.10	322.30	+0.40	...
-do- Initial	200.70	211.30	+0.10	...
America Acc	269.50	283.70	+1.00	...
Australia Acc	198.30	208.80	+5.70	...
Financial Acc	315.30	331.90	+2.70	...
500 Accum	417.00	439.00	-2.90	..
Japan Genl Acc	299.90	315.70	-6.50	..
Income Acc	491.40	517.30	-3.50	...
Leisure Acc	214.00	225.30	-2.30	...
Special Sits Acc	222.80	234.60	-2.10	...
Univ Tech Acc	148.70	156.60	-1.80	...
BLACK HORSE LIFE Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF 01634 834000				
The Managed Fd	772.59	772.59	-3.47	...
Income Fund	734.63	773.30	-4.70	...
Extra Income	665.35	700.37	-5.26	...
Worldwide Gth	457.82	481.92	-6.40	...
Balanced Fund	637.95	671.53	-1.92	...
Smllr Cos Recov	651.61	685.91	-1.43	.
N Amer & Genrl	339.95	357.85	-4.28	..
Pacific Basin	386.81	407.17	-10.28	...
German Growth	236.55	249.0	-2.74	...
Japan Growth	163.79	172.42	+0.93	...
The UK Gth Fd	200.60	211.16	-1.01	...
Contl Euro Gth	130.20	137.06	-2.00	...
Property Fund	414.80	436.64	+0.31	...
Fixed Interest	298.44	314.15	-3.62	...
Cash Fund	285.22	300.24	+0.26	.
Managed Inv	467.66	492.28	-2.25	...
Nth Amer Recov	226.32	238.24	-4.59	...
Abtrust Fund				
Managed Grth	495.37	521.45	-1.06	...
BRITANNIA LIFE ASSURANCE PO Box 37, Greenock, Renfrewshire 01475 888080				
Measured Perf	152.40	161.20	-0.90	...
Performance Plus	150.40	159.10	-0.60	...
With Profit Perf	173.30	183.30	+0.20	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Opportunity	169.10	178.90	-0.50	...
Euro Opportunity	215.30	227.50	-3.60	...
North Amer Opp	154.70	168.40	...	...
Far East Opp	173.20	183.20	+1.00	...
Gwth Prop Ser 1	125.80	132.50		
Gth Prop Ser 2	182.20	192.90	+0.30	...
Fixed Int	165.50	174.20	+0.70	...
Cash	157.50	166.60	+0.10	...
Overseas	173.40	183.40	-0.60	...
Formerly LAS				
Managed Fund	316.50	333.20	-2.30	..
UK Equity	527.80	555.60	-2.70	...
Property	285.20	300.30	...	...
Money Market	253.90	267.30	+0.20	...
Fixed Interest	296.40	312.00	-0.20	...
Japan	331.00	348.50	-7.80	...
North America	144.10	151.70	-1.30	...
International	266.70	280.80	-4.90	...
European	277.70	292.40	-4.70	...
Far East	120.00	126.40	-1.10	...
CANADA LIFE 26 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA 01707 51122				
Equity Growth	£271.80	...	...	..
Managed	313.80	330.40	-1.20	..
Property	238.00	250.60	+0.10	...
Gilt & Fxd Int	236.90	249.40	+0.80	...
Equity	346.40	364.70	-3.20	...
Cash	217.70	229.20	...	...
CLife Euro Mgd	362.80	381.90	-2.80	...
CLife Intl Fd	336.00	353.70	-2.60	...
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd, Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 01908 606101				
Property Fund	174.20	183.40	...	...
Managed Fund	572.00	602.20	+0.30	..
Equity Fund	325.90	343.10	...	..
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0117 9290566				
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	273.00	287.40	-2.50	...
Ruby	163.00	171.60	-1.30	...
Emerald	143.10	150.70	+0.40	...
Equity	309.50	325.80	-4.10	...
Property	232.70	245.00	+0.10	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	198.60	209.10	+0.80	...
Indexed Secs	165.10	173.80	+0.70	...
Cash	188.60	198.60	+0.20	...
Nth American	216.60	228.10	...	...
Far East	296.40	312.10	-2.70	...
International	227.50	239.50	-2.50	...
Special Sits	308.80	325.10	-2.70	...
Intl Income	277.90	292.60	-2.20	...
American Inc	187.60	197.50	-0.50	...
European	312.00	328.50	-2.40	...
Japanese	131.50	138.50	-3.80	...
SE Asia	338.10	355.90	+2.00	...
With Profits Reg	167.00	175.80	+0.20	...
-do- Spec	167.00	175.80	+0.20	...
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	303.80	319.80	-1.50	...
Equity	361.20	380.30	+0.70	...
Property	214.30	225.60	-0.50	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	247.60	260.70	+2.40	...
Index Linked	174.20	183.40	+0.70	...
Cash	252.60	266.00	+0.20	...
Nth American	263.10	277.00	-1.60	...
Far East Acc	286.20	301.30	-5.90	...
International Acc	282.70	297.60	-3.90	...
Special Sits	444.00	467.40	-5.40	...
European Flex	427.80	450.40	-4.50	...
COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP Colonial Mutual House, Chatham Maritime, Kent ME4 4YY. 01634 890 000				
(Unitd)-Key	£210.28	...	..	...
-do- Pacemaker	£302.25	...	...	...
-do- Cash	205.22	216.02	+1.00	...
-do- Equity	517.81	545.06	-1.82	...
-do- Fxd Int	346.95	365.21	+0.47	...
-do- Managed	371.83	391.40	-1.17	...
-do- Property	293.55	309.00	+1.27	...
(Pens)- Cash Cap	208.35	219.32	+0.06	...
-do- Cash Inv	307.19	323.37	+0.31	...
-do- Equity Cap	£13.45	£14.16	-21.27	...
-do- Equity Inv	£19.84	£20.88	-29.94	...
-do- Fixed Cap	378.33	398.25	-4.05	...
-do- Fixed Inv	557.82	587.19	-5.56	...
-do- Index Cap	194.86	205.12	-0.87	...
-do- Index Inv	287.30	302.43	-1.07	...
Mngd Cap	538.93	567.30	-7.82	...
Mngd Inv	794.60	836.43	-10.95	...
COMMERCIAL UNION St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3 0171 283 7500				
Var Ann Acc (5)	1657.37	...	-11.32	..
Var Ann (5)	186.60	...	-1.63	...
Prime: Managed	383.80	404.10	-1.60	...
Prime: UK Equity	461.30	485.60	-0.30	...
Prime: Int Equity	286.70	301.80	-4.30	...
Prime: Property	253.90	267.30	+0.20	...
Prime Fxd Int	226.10	238.00	+0.40	...
Prime Index-Lnk	166.10	174.90	+0.40	...
Prime: Cash	207.10	218.00	+0.20	...
CONFEDERATION LIFE Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN 01438 744848				
Managed Fund	£11.01	£11.59	-5.40	...
Equity Fund	£15.80	£16.63	-9.10	...
CROWN FINANCIAL Crown House, Woking GU21 1XW 01483 715033				
Life Mangd Acc	569.80	599.70	-2.60	...
Life Fxd Int Acc	365.30	384.50	+1.90	...
Life Equity Acc	794.80	836.60	-2.30	...
Life Money Acc	303.10	319.00	+0.20	...
Life-Inv Tst Acc	760.10	800.10	-0.40	...
Life Intl Acc	471.60	496.40	-5.50	...
Life High Inc Acc	772.10	812.70	-2.30	...
Life Property Acc	259.90	273.50	+0.20	...
Crown Brit Inv A	£13.10	..	...	...
Brewin Equity	645.40	679.30	-11.30	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE Bath Road, Cheltenham, Gloucester GL53 7LQ. 01242 221311				
Secure Fund	176.70	186.10	+0.10	...
Managed Fund	227.60	239.60	-0.90	...
-do- Series 2	149.30	157.20	-0.50	...
Adventurous Fd	180.20	189.70	-0.50	...
-do- Series 2	138.30	145.90	-0.30	...
Equity Mngd Fd	229.50	241.60	-1.40	...
-do- Series 2	152.10	160.20	-0.90	...
UK Pref Fxd Int	137.90	145.20	+0.30	...
UK Equity Fund	153.50	161.60	-0.60	...
Property Fund	121.70	128.20	-0.10	...
Envrnmntl Opps	153.70	161.80	-1.20	...
Euro Fund	182.00	191.60	-1.00	...
North Amer Fd	185.50	195.30	+0.40	...
Oriental Ops	218.10	229.60	-1.30	...
Japanese Fund	114.20	120.30	-2.00	...
Bd & West Life	125.00	131.60	+0.10	...
Bd & West Pen	141.40	148.90	+0.20	...
EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND 60 St Mary Axe, London EC3. 0171 929 1111				
Eagle/Mid Uts	245.90	254.90	-1.60	3.59
FRIENDS' PROVIDENT Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH 01722 413366				
Managed (Mixd)	291.60	307.00	-1.30	...
UK Equity	384.60	404.90	-2.10	...
Stewardship	326.10	343.30	-0.30	...
Overseas Equity	267.10	281.20	-1.20	...
North American	145.40	153.10	-0.10	...
Pacific Basin	153.20	161.30	-1.40	...
European	213.30	224.60	-0.80	...
Property	204.80	215.60	+0.20	...
Fixed Interest	226.20	238.20	+0.40	...
Index Linked	164.10	172.80	+0.70	...
Cash	202.10	212.80	+0.20	...
FP Life Assurance ex NM				
Fixed Interest	524.80	552.40	+1.80	...
Managed	669.90	705.10	-3.30	...
Deposit	346.80	365.00	+0.30	...
Property	487.80	513.40	+0.40	...
American	414.70	436.50	...	...
Australian	482.60	508.00	+9.70	...
European	518.70	546.00	-3.00	...
Income Acc	725.70	763.80	-18.30	...
-do- Dist	421.00	443.20	-3.10	4.28
International	295.20	310.70	-2.70	...
Japan Smaller	461.30	485.50	-13.50	...
Singapore & Mal	371.20	390.70	-7.00	...
Smaller Cos	379.60	399.50	-5.90	...
Tokyo Fund	632.90	666.20	-10.30	...
UK Equity	560.70	590.20	+6.90	...
CCM Vangd Mg	713.40	750.90	-3.90	...
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD Alban Gate, 14th Flr, 125 London Wall, Lond EC2Y 5AS. 0171 710 4567				
GT Plan Far East	298.30	314.00	-7.30	...
GT Plan Wwide	454.10	478.00	-5.60	...
GAN LIFE & PENSIONS Gan House, Harlow, Essex CM20 2EW. 01279 626262				
Portfolio Acc	659.00	694.00	-3.30	...
-do- Inv A	658.90	693.60	-3.60	...
UK Equity	389.80	410.40	-1.90	...
Gilt Plus	197.20	207.70	+0.70	...
Managed	292.60	308.10	-1.50	...
GENERAL ACCIDENT 2 Rougier St, York YO1 1HR. 01904 628982				
Managed	201.60	212.10	-0.60	...
Unitised Profit	138.60	145.80	+0.20	...
UK Equity	269.10	283.10	-0.30	...
Fixed Int	188.50	198.30	+0.70	...
Index-Linked	160.60	169.00	+0.60	...
Cash Deposit	175.40	184.50	+0.10	...
Property	193.10	203.10	+0.10	...
International	166.10	174.80	-1.80	...
American	155.70	163.80	-0.20	...
Japan	222.70	234.30	-3.40	...
Japan Smllr Cos	228.00	239.90	-5.90	...
European	177.80	187.00	+0.30	...
Pacific Fund	266.80	280.80	-1.90	...
Conv Life	120.80	127.00	-0.60	...
For General Portfolio see Gan				
GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE Royal Exchange London EC3. 0171 283 7101				
Ass Prop Bds	818.50	852.60	...	...
Managed Initial	433.20	456.00	-2.00	...
-do- Acc	620.90	653.60	-2.50	...
Equity Initial	642.00	675.80	-4.70	...
-do- Acc	920.20	968.60	-6.30	...
Fixed Int Initial	429.50	452.10	+0.30	...
-do- Acc	615.50	647.90	+0.60	...
Intl Initial	427.60	450.10	-3.30	...
-do- Acc	612.90	645.10	-4.40	...
Nth Amer Initial	169.90	178.90	+0.50	...
-do- Acc	221.60	233.30	+0.70	...
Pacific Initial	226.70	238.60	+0.30	...
-do- Acc	292.90	308.30	+0.50	...
Property Initial	180.10	189.50	...	...
-do- Acc	257.70	271.20	...	...
Index-Lnkd Intl	154.90	163.00	+0.20	...
-do- Acc	202.00	212.60	+0.40	...
Deposit Initial	198.00	208.40	...	...
-do- Acc	283.80	298.70	+0.20	...
Euro Initial	103.90	109.40	-0.30	...
-do- Acc	125.30	131.90	-0.30	...
HALIFAX LIFE LTD PO Box 285, York YO1 1YB 01904 611110				
Life Funds				
Foundation	24.02	25.28	-0.12	...
Balanced	24.19	25.46	-0.11	...
Opportunity	24.14	25.41	-0.14	...
Deposit	23.81	25.06	+0.02	...
Pension Funds				
Foundation	23.99	25.25	-0.15	...
Balanced	24.22	25.49	-0.14	...
Opportunity	24.17	25.44	-0.16	...
Deposit	23.83	25.08	+0.03	...
HAMBRO GUARDIAN ASSURANCE Kingsgate, 1 King Edward Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4HG. 01277 200939				
Managed	158.70	167.00	-0.80	...
-do- Pens	194.00	204.20	-0.90	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Equity	162.00	170.50	-0.10	..
-do- Pens	182.90	192.50	-0.10	..
International	138.20	145.40	-2.10	...
-do- Pens	150.50	159.40	-2.30	...
Deposit	140.60	149.00	+0.10	...
-do- Pens	166.80	175.50	+0.10	...
HENDERSON ADMINISTRATION 3 Finsbury Avenue, London EC2M 2PA 0171 638 5757				
UK Equity Fd	338.40	360.00	-3.90	...
North America	338.40	360.00	-3.60	...
Far East Fund	585.70	623.10	-9.30	...
Global Managed	446.00	474.50	-3.30	...
Deposit Fund	230.80	243.00	...	...
Prime Residential	136.70	143.90	+0.10	...
European Fund	255.00	271.30	-2.90	...
Fixed Interest	60.60	64.50	-0.20	...
HILL SAMUEL LIFE NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon 0181 686 4355				
Security Fund	481.90	510.00	-4.70	...
British Fund	500.80	530.00	-1.20	...
International	519.30	549.60	+2.90	...
Dollar Fund	375.80	397.70	+2.70	...
Capital Fund	459.00	485.80	+2.30	...
Income Fund	659.00	697.40	-1.70	..
Property Series A	459.70	486.50	...	4.50
Property Units	758.90	796.50	...	...
Financial Fund	557.30	589.80	+13.10	...
Managed Ser A	519.70	550.00	-0.50	...
Managed Units	930.60	979.60	-0.70	...
High Yield Fund	621.20	657.40	-4.10	...
Money Series A	290.80	307.80	+0.20	...
Money Units	385.60	405.90	+0.30	...
Equity Fund	585.90	620.00	+0.40	...
Fixed Interest	358.20	379.10	-1.30	...
Indexed Secs	181.80	192.40	+1.00	...
European Fund	699.70	740.50	+3.40	...
Natural Res	276.90	293.10	+2.60	...
Far East Fund	620.40	656.60	+2.40	...
Smaller Cos	462.10	489.00	-1.50	...
Special Sits	432.30	457.50	+2.80	...
Man Currency	262.60	277.90	-0.10	...
Japanese Tech	265.80	281.30	+3.30	...
US Smaller Cos	242.80	257.00	+2.80	...
IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans, Herts AL1 5TF. 01727 48181				
Global Managed	543.80	572.40	...	...
Global Property	292.30	307.70	...	...
Global Fixed Int	501.50	527.90	+2.50	...
Global Equity	580.10	610.60	+0.10	...
Global Cash	215.30	226.60	+0.20	...
LAURENTIAN LIFE Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RZ 01452 371371				
Property	488.10	513.70	-0.10	...
Managed	396.00	416.80	-1.40	...
American	393.20	413.80	-1.30	...
UK Equity Fd	424.50	446.80	-0.10	..
Japan	185.20	194.90	-6.60	...
Index-Lkd	180.50	189.90	+0.70	...
High Yield	812.40	855.10	-7.20	...
Money	406.30	427.60	+0.30	...
International	373.90	393.50	-4.30	...
Henderson Active	203.70	214.40	-3.90	...
Perpetual Active	311.20	327.50	-3.20	...
Growth Acc	620.10	652.70	-3.10	...
Gilt Edged	423.40	445.60	+2.10	...
European	153.80	161.80	-1.40	...
Far East	196.50	206.80	...	...
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE 2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE 01273 824000				
B Soc Lnkd Init	134.90	142.10	...	...
-do- Acc	187.70	197.60	+0.10	...
Brit Opps Int	135.30	142.50	-1.00	...
-do- Acc	168.80	177.70	-1.30	...
Cash Initial	167.60	176.50	+0.10	...
-do- Acc	290.00	305.30	+0.20	.
Equity Initial	621.10	653.80	-1.70	...
-do- Acc	£10.74	£11.31	-2.90	...
Fixed Initial	334.30	351.90	+1.30	...
-do- Acc	578.30	608.80	+2.30	...
Index-Lnkd Gilt	129.60	136.50	+0.50	...
-do- Acc	191.40	201.50	+0.70	...
Intl Initial	307.80	324.00	-4.20	...
-do- Acc	524.20	551.80	-7.00	...
Managed Initial	452.00	475.80	-2.40	...
-do- Acc	781.90	823.10	-4.10	...
Property Initial	219.20	230.80	-0.20	...
-do- Acc	379.30	399.30	+0.50	...
LINCOLN NATIONAL 1 Olympic Way, Wembley, Middx HA9 0NB 0181 902 8876				
Equity Units	£126.81	...	-0.72	...
Property Units	£27.26	...	...	...
Bal Bd Exec Unit	£64.54	£67.93	-0.43	...
2nd Equity Acc	609.10	641.10	-3.60	...
2nd High Inc Ac	590.20	621.30	-5.90	...
2nd Property Acc	249.20	261.30	...	...
2nd Mngd 2 Acc	178.60	188.00	-0.30	...
2nd Mngd 3 Acc	453.30	477.20	-3.00	...
2nd Mngd 4 Acc	223.40	235.10	-1.80	...
2nd Deposit Acc	285.00	300.00	+0.20	...
2nd Gilt Acc	298.90	314.70	+1.60	...
2nd Amer Acc	832.10	865.40	-14.30	...
2nd Intl Mny Acc	264.50	278.40	-1.10	...
2nd Index Acc	203.10	213.80	+0.20	...
2nd Far East Acc	421.60	443.80	-3.10	...
2nd Global Acc	159.90	168.30	-2.90	...
2nd Euro Acc	159.00	167.40	-1.90	...
2nd Japan Acc	183.70	193.40	-0.30	...
2nd Int Cr Bd Acc	160.70	169.20	-0.50	...
2nd Cap Gth Acc	124.10	130.70	-0.70	...
LONDON LIFE 100 Temple Street, Bristol, BS1 6EA 0117 9279179				
Equity	£383.10	...	-0.40	...
Fixed Interest	£414.30	...	+3.60	...
Property	£423.10	...	+0.50	...
Deposit	£294.70	...	+0.30	...
Mixed	£384.20	...	-0.70	...
Indexed Stock	£206.50	...	+0.90	...
International	£281.40	...	-2.40	...
Equity A	£204.90	...	-0.10	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Fixed Int A	£152.80	..	+1.60	...
Property A	£186.00	..	-0.20	...
Deposit A	£173.20	.	-0.20	...
Mixed A	£192.00	..	-0.20	...
Index Stock A	£163.20	..	-0.70	...
International A	£175.80	..	-1.50	...
Equity P	£225.10	..	-1.10	...
Fixed Int P	£542.20	..	+0.30	...
Property P	£337.50	...	+0.50	...
Deposit P	£347.10		...	...
Mixed P	£535.20	..	-1.50	...
Index Stock P	£238.60	...	-0.90	...
International P	£336.00	..	-3.10	...
LONDON & MANCHESTER ASSURANCE Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 01392 285456				
Inv Trust Cap	£553.30	...	-2.30	...
-do- Acc	£935.60	...	-3.20	...
Property Cap	£149.90	...	-0.20	...
-do- Acc	£243.70	...	-0.10	...
Fxd Interest Cap	£188.60	...	+0.60	...
-do- Acc	£308.40	...	+1.20	...
Equity Cap	£297.30	...	-1.50	...
-do- Acc	£492.60	...	-2.10	...
Internatl Cap	£215.60	...	-2.00	...
-do- Acc	£353.70	...	-3.10	...
Gtd Deposit Cap	£164.90	...	...	...
-do- Acc	£266.20	...	+0.10	7.20
Flexible Cap	£322.60	...	-1.70	...
-do- Acc	£533.20	...	-2.30	...
Moneymaker Fd	£411.70	...	-1.80	...
Capital Growth	£15.98	...	-7.40	...
M & G Victoria Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1FB 01245 266266				
Amer Bond Acc	395.10	416.00	+2.20	...
Amer Rec Bond	465.50	488.80	+3.30	...
Am Smlr Cos Bd	233.90	245.70	+0.10	...
Australasia Bd	204.30	214.60	+2.50	...
Commodity Bond	284.70	299.00	-0.70	...
Deposit Bond Acc	364.30	382.60	+0.40	...
Equity Bond Acc	£14.57	£15.30	-15.00	...
European Bd Acc	371.90	390.50	-1.00	...
Extra Yld Bd Acc	714.20	750.00	-0.30	...
Far East Bd Acc	289.60	304.20	-2.30	...
Gilt Bond Acc	428.40	449.90	+0.70	...
Gold Bond Acc	139.40	146.50	+4.30	...
High Yield Bond	320.60	336.80	-3.00	...
Index-Lnk Gt Bd	203.20	213.40	+0.60	...
International Bd	730.00	766.60	-1.00	...
Japan Bond Acc	245.10	257.40	-4.00	...
Japan Sm Cos Ac	241.40	253.60	-2.50	...
Managed Bonds	846.60	889.00	-4.20	...
Prop Bond Acc	331.30	348.00	+3.60	...
Rec Bond Acc	725.70	762.10	-6.50	...
MGM ASSURANCE MGM House, Heene Road, Worthing BN11 2DY. 01903 204631				
UK Equity	211.90	223.10	-1.40	...
UK Equity Acc	301.30	317.20	-1.70	...
Special Sits	87.50	92.20	-0.60	...
Special Sits Acc	124.40	131.00	-0.90	...
North American	171.70	180.80	-0.30	...
N American Acc	244.20	257.10	-0.20	...
Pacific Basin	337.70	355.50	-0.80	...
Pacific Basin Acc	480.20	505.50	-0.80	...
Fixed Interest	272.90	287.30	+0.60	...
Fixed Interest Acc	388.50	409.00	+1.20	...
Property	177.90	187.30	...	...
Property Acc	253.30	266.70	+0.20	...
Deposit	152.10	160.20	...	...
Deposit Acc	216.90	228.40	+0.20	...
Managed	245.90	258.90	-1.30	...
Managed Acc	322.40	339.40	-1.30	...
MANULIFE GROUP St Georges Way, Stevenage, Herts 01438 356101				
Managed Fund	688.10	724.30	-3.00	...
Property Fund	547.30	576.10	+0.80	...
Equity Fund	873.10	919.00	-6.30	...
Gilt Edged Fd	599.50	631.00	+1.80	...
Deposit Fund	333.60	351.20	+0.30	...
Investment Fd	374.40	394.20	-2.50	...
International	520.00	547.40	-2.20	...
MERCHANT INVESTORS St Bartholomew House, Lewins Mead, Bristol BS1 2NH 0117 9266 366				
Property	446.50	470.00	+0.30	...
UK Equity	339.80	357.60	-1.50	...
Gilt Edged	558.00	587.30	+1.90	...
Interest Fund	390.00	410.50	+0.40	...
UK Fund	471.00	495.70	-1.70	...
Intl Equity	578.20	608.60	-4.60	...
Intl Managed	545.30	574.00	-4.40	...
North American	211.70	222.80	-0.70	...
Far East	431.10	453.70	-4.60	...
Intl Currency	260.60	274.30	+0.30	...
NPI 48 Gracechurch Street, London EC3P 3HH 0171 623 4200				
Managed	464.60	489.00	-1.80	...
UK Equity	576.50	606.80	-3.10	...
Overseas Equity	454.10	478.00	-2.80	...
Americas	387.10	407.40	-0.50	...
Far East	511.20	538.10	-3.40	...
Property	222.00	233.60	-0.10	...
Fixed Interest	375.50	395.20	+1.10	...
Indexed Gilt	226.80	238.70	+1.10	...
Deposit	218.40	229.80	+0.20	...
NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY - Ex NUAM Funds PO Box 140, Norwich NR3 1PP 01603 622200				
Managed Fund	£13.69	£14.41	-4.30	...
Eqty Fund	£20.75	£21.32	-6.80	...
Property Fd	579.60	610.10	+0.70	...
Fixed Int Fd	578.70	609.20	+2.90	...
Deposit Fund	352.00	370.50	+0.30	...
Intl Fund	232.00	244.20	-1.70	...
PEARL ASSURANCE The Pearl Centre, Lynch Wood, Peterborough PE2 6FY. 01733 470 470				
Inv Prop Dist	157.40	165.70	-0.20	.
Prop Acc (Gross)	331.60	349.10	-0.50	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Inv Equity	£11.56	£12.17	-5.60	...
Inv Managed	822.50	864.10	-5.50	...
Ret Managed	915.90	964.20	-4.70	...
PROVIDENCE CAPITOL 2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA 01256 766666				
Equity Fund Acc	275.20	290.40	-0.90	..
Fxd Interest Acc	256.00	269.50	-0.90	..
International Acc	239.90	252.10	-2.80	...
Managed Acc	211.00	222.60	-0.50	...
Property Acc	225.20	237.10	...	...
Money Acc	155.50	164.40	+0.10	...
Spec Mkt Acc	212.10	223.00	+1.80	...
Japan Equity Acc	116.00	122.40	-2.80	...
N Amer Acc	149.50	158.10	-0.90	...
Pacific Acc	148.40	156.60	-1.60	...
European Acc	154.90	165.10	-1.70	...
PROVIDENT MUTUAL Six Hills Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2ST 01438 752000				
Managed Ord	456.70	482.80	-1.70	...
Managed Initial	307.10	323.30	-1.20	...
Equity Ord	699.90	736.20	-1.40	...
Equity Init	461.80	486.10	-1.30	...
I-Linked Gilt Ord	196.50	206.80	-0.80	...
I-Linked Gilt Init	137.40	144.60	+0.50	...
Oseas Equity Ord	361.70	380.70	-4.00	...
Oseas Equity Init	242.10	254.80	-3.00	...
Property Ord	284.40	299.40	-0.20	...
Property Init	190.40	200.40	...	...
Fixed Int Ord	274.10	285.90	+1.20	...
Fixed Int Init	183.50	193.20	+0.80	...
Deposit Ord	207.90	218.70	+0.10	...
Deposit Initial	139.10	146.40	...	...
PRUDENTIAL Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH 0171 405 9222				
Managed	327.40	341.10	-3.20	...
PRUDENTIAL INDIVIDUAL LIFE FUNDS 1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AP 0171 548 3278				
Managed Fund	765.30	805.60	-3.70	...
Equity Fund	£14.20	£14.94	-3.70	...
Intl Fund	598.20	629.70	-6.70	...
Fixed Interest	552.30	581.40	+1.60	...
Property Fund	483.20	508.70	...	...
Cash Fund	367.50	386.90	+0.20	...
Pacific Basin	332.90	350.50	-5.20	...
N American Fd	247.70	260.80	-0.60	...
Euro Fund	264.00	277.90	-3.30	...
Balanced Fund	149.50	157.40	-1.80	...
Strategic Fund	157.10	165.40	-1.10	...
ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE Peterborough Business Park, Peterborough PE2 6GG. 01733 390000				
Mult Grow (45)	£721.10	...	...	...
-do- Acc	431.90	454.10	...	...
Op Prop	510.30	537.20	-0.10	...
Op Equity	910.20	958.20	-2.00	...
Op High Yield	570.60	600.70	-3.00	...
Op Managed	777.70	818.70	-6.50	...
Op Deposit	396.00	416.90	+0.30	...
Inc Gilt	282.90	297.80	-1.40	...
Japan Smlr	226.90	238.90	-7.00	...
Managed Gth	243.90	256.80	-1.10	...
Gilt	78.80	83.00	+0.50	...
British	340.50	358.92	-2.90	...
Global Bond	110.90	116.80	...	...
Global (35.34)	157.70	166.00	-0.50	...
Gold Share	82.20	86.60	+0.10	...
High Income	282.40	297.30	-1.60	...
Income	403.20	424.50	-1.20	...
Japan	398.40	419.40	-7.50	...
UK Smlr Cos	325.50	342.70	-0.90	...
Mngd Growth	432.20	455.00	-2.30	...
ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS 0151 239 3000				
Royal Shield Fd	932.50	986.60	-7.00	...
Royal Life Unit Linked				
Managed Fund	370.00	389.30	-2.80	...
Equity Fund	519.30	546.40	-2.50	...
Property Fund	339.70	357.50	-0.10	...
International	456.10	480.10	-5.10	...
Pacific Basin	253.10	266.30	-2.40	...
United States	252.50	265.60	-1.10	...
Gilt Fund	356.70	375.60	+0.70	...
SAVE & PROSPER 16-22 Western Road, Romford, Essex RM1 3LB. 01708 766966				
Bal Inv Fund	750.80	794.50	-0.40	2.61
Deposit Fund (2)	374.60	396.50	+0.40	6.75
Gilt Fund	509.20	538.90	+1.50	8.41
Global Equity Fd	228.40	241.70	-1.10	...
Property Fund (46)	112.10	118.70	+0.20	6.65
AG Bond Fund	141.90	150.20	-2.10	...
SCOTTISH AMICABLE 150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow 0141 248 2323				
Equity	569.30	599.30	-0.50	...
Fixed Interest	363.50	382.70	+0.20	...
Index-Linked	192.60	202.80	+1.10	...
International	441.40	464.70	-3.20	...
Property	301.10	316.90	-0.30	...
Cash	231.90	244.20	+0.30	...
Managed	455.00	479.00	-0.90	...
Cap Gteed Bd	109.40	115.20	...	...
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE 28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF 0131 556 9101				
Cash	192.16	192.45	+0.16	...
Index-Linked	158.40	166.70	+0.50	...
Fixed Interest	170.80	179.80	+0.70	...
Mixed	247.80	260.80	-1.40	...
UK Equity	232.70	244.90	+0.10	...
International	250.00	263.20	-1.50	...
American	249.00	262.10	-0.10	...
Japan	220.30	231.90	-4.70	...
European	254.60	268.00	-0.60	...
Pacific	336.20	353.90	-1.40	...
Technology	355.00	373.70	-2.70	...
Currncy/Currncy	226.70	238.60	+0.70	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 19 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YE 0131 225 2211				
Property	226.70	238.70	+0.20	...
UK Equity	339.20	357.10	+0.10	...
American	242.20	255.10	+2.30	...
Pacific	327.30	344.60	-1.20	...
European	466.50	491.20	-5.50	...
International	296.10	311.80	-0.20	...
Fixed Interest	232.20	244.60	+0.10	...
Index Linked	191.00	201.10	+0.30	...
Deposit	195.90	206.40	+0.20	...
Managed	276.10	290.80	+0.10	...
Worldwide	116.10	122.30	-0.50	...
Pen Worldwide	122.80	129.40	-0.50	...
SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE 109 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5HN 0141 248 6321				
Flex Fund (35)	£16.12	£16.62	...	...
Safety Fund	228.90	241.00	-0.30	...
Growth Fund	220.60	232.30	-1.50	...
Opportunity Fd	216.80	227.40	-1.50	...
Cash Fund	175.90	185.20	...	...
European Fund	333.70	351.30	-1.20	...
Gilts & Fxd Int	196.80	207.20	+1.10	...
Index-Linked Fd	177.50	186.90	+0.70	...
International Fd	271.10	285.40	-2.60	...
North American	227.40	239.40	-1.80	...
Property Fund	130.00	136.90	-0.10	...
UK Equity	234.60	247.00	-1.80	...
UK Smaller	225.00	236.90	-1.40	...
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT 6 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA 0131 556 9181				
Mixed	255.40	268.90	-1.10	...
Equity	262.00	275.90	-0.70	...
International	261.40	275.30	-1.90	...
Property	235.10	247.50	+0.10	...
Fixed Interest	219.00	230.70	+0.30	...
Index Linked	175.80	185.20	+0.80	...
Cash	188.20	198.20	+0.10	...
Formerly Prolific				
Bal Gwth Mngd	764.70	813.60	-2.30	...
Cash Fund	342.30	360.80	+0.30	...
Property Fund	295.60	311.50	+0.30	...
Equity Fund	871.90	927.60	-7.60	...
Fxd Interest Fund	453.20	477.60	+1.20	...
International	381.00	406.40	-3.20	...
High Income	665.10	707.60	+0.50	...
Far East	542.40	577.10	-7.80	...
North American	519.80	553.00	-2.30	...
Special Sits	614.80	654.10	+1.00	...
Technology	578.70	615.70	-9.10	...
Extra Income Fd	364.10	387.40	-1.50	...
Gilt Fund	472.70	502.90	+1.40	...
European	149.40	159.00	-0.90	...
Adventurous Mg	208.20	219.20	-2.00	...
Secure Mgd	145.20	153.10	-0.10	...
Equity Inc Dist	110.20	116.20	-0.50	5.06
North American	106.20	112.00	-0.30	5.36
SCOTTISH WIDOWS PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU 0131 655 6000				
Inv Pol 1	905.50	905.50	-6.80	...
Inv Pol 2	822.50	865.90	-6.40	...
Inv Pol 3	785.50	826.70	-6.20	...
Inv Cash	317.60	334.40	+0.30	...
Mixed Fund	431.20	454.00	-2.40	...
Equity Fund	507.40	534.20	-3.70	...
Property Fund	247.50	260.60	+0.20	...
International Fd	463.80	488.30	-5.40	...
Fixed Interest Fd	368.00	387.40	+1.10	...
Indexed Stock Fd	193.30	203.60	+0.80	...
Cash Fund	229.90	242.10	+0.20	...
SKANDIA LIFE Skandia House, Portland Terrace, Southampton SO9 7BX 01703 334411				
Managed Acc	365.40	384.60	-3.20	...
Equity Acc	431.50	454.20	-3.70	...
International Acc	326.70	343.80	-4.80	...
Property	235.00	247.30	-0.80	...
STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO 3 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ 0131 225 2552				
Cash	270.60	284.90	+0.20	...
Equity	973.60	£10.24	-4.60	...
European	169.70	178.70	-1.50	...
Far East	160.70	169.20	-0.80	...
Fixed Interest	389.50	410.00	+1.40	...
Index Linked	204.40	215.20	+0.80	...
International	596.10	627.50	-3.60	...
Managed	682.60	718.60	-3.00	...
Nth American	142.70	150.30	-0.20	...
Property	364.00	383.20	+0.50	...
Pensions				
Cash	422.30	444.60	+0.40	...
Equity	£13.91	£14.64	-6.40	...
European	200.40	211.00	-2.40	...
Far East	127.40	134.20	-1.00	...
Fixed Interest	539.60	568.10	+2.20	...
Index Linked	284.40	299.40	+1.10	...
International	828.30	871.90	-6.80	...
Managed	953.00	£10.00	-4.40	...
Nth American	175.30	184.60	...	...
Property	499.50	525.80	+0.40	...
Stock Exchange	214.10	225.40	-1.10	...
SUN ALLIANCE St Mark's Court, Horsham, Sussex 01403 232323				
Managed Fund	635.30	668.80	-4.20	...
Equity Fund	823.30	866.70	-5.10	...
Fixed Interest Fd	403.90	425.20	+1.60	...
Index-Linked Fd	311.10	327.50	+0.90	...
Property Fund	527.80	555.60	+0.40	...
International Fd	607.90	639.90	-6.30	...
N American Fd	227.90	239.90	-1.60	...
Far East Fund	214.70	226.00	-1.50	...
Deposit Fund	299.40	315.20	+0.30	...
International Bd	£82.10	...	-1.38	...
Worldwide Bond	152.80	160.90	+0.30	...
European	162.80	171.40	-1.20	...
Phoenix Assurance				
Wealth Assured	631.30	664.70	-7.40	...
Ebor Phoenix Eq	440.60	470.30	+6.30	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Property Growth				
Property Fund	£609.70	...	+0.60	...
-do- Acc	£568.40	...	+0.50	...
Agricultural Fd	£829.70	...	+0.60	...
-do- Acc	£797.10	...	-0.60	...
Abbey Nat Fd	£450.20	...	+0.40	...
Abbey Nat Acc	£475.80	...	+0.40	...
Investment Fd	£338.20	...	-2.10	...
Investment (A)	£324.50	...	...	...
Equity	£11.99	...	-7.00	...
Equity Acc	£11.47	...	-6.80	...
Money Fund	£477.90	...	+0.50	...
-do- Acc	£456.70	...	+0.40	...
Actuarial Fd	£359.20	...	-2.80	...
Gilt-Edged Fd	£378.40	...	+1.50	...
-do- Acc	£378.40	...	+1.50	...
Retire Annuity	£12.64	...	...	...
Immed Annuity	£307.50	...	...	...
Bldg Soc Life	£229.30	...	+0.20	...
SUN LIFE OF CANADA Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ Dealing: 01256 841414				
Growth Account	£14.32	...	...	...
Managed Acc	£810.10	...	+10.20	...
Equity Account	£11.45	...	+12.40	...
Mngd Fund Acc	372.40	392.00	+4.80	...
Equity Fund Acc	500.00	526.30	+5.50	...
Prop Fund Acc	267.20	281.30	+0.10	...
Fixed Int Fd Acc	300.80	316.60	+1.00	...
Money Fund Acc	223.10	234.80	+0.50	...
Indx-Lnk Scs Ac	199.80	210.30	+0.40	...
Pens Pens Acct	£18.47	...	...	...
Pens Mngd Acc	858.70	903.90	...	...
Pens Guarantee	255.80	269.30	...	...
Pens Equity	327.00	344.20	...	...
Pens Property	306.30	322.50	...	...
Pens Fixed Int	278.00	292.70	...	...
Pens Intl	237.60	250.10	...	...
Pens Money	238.60	251.20	...	...
Pens Indx-Lnkd	191.00	201.10	...	...
SUN LIFE UNIT St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL 0117 9426911				
Managed Acc	862.60	908.00	-2.90	...
Property Acc	306.80	323.00	+0.20	...
Equity Acc	£13.98	£14.72	-0.60	...
Fixed Int Acc	390.40	411.00	+1.60	...
Cash Acc	312.00	328.50	+0.20	...
Amer Equity Acc	358.50	377.40	-1.40	...
Japan Acc	280.60	295.40	+0.70	...
Pacific Acc	342.10	360.20	-9.20	...
Far Eastern Acc	791.90	833.60	-15.70	...
International Acc	563.30	593.00	-8.00	...
Distribution Fund	268.60	282.80	-1.50	6.19
European	190.30	200.40	-2.10	...
Deflrd Dist	163.70	172.40	-0.20	...
TSB LIFE LTD Charlton Place, Andover, Hants SP10 1RE 01264 345678				
Managed Fund	272.70	287.10	-0.80	...
Property Fund	230.70	243.00	+0.20	...
Fixed Interest Fd	219.70	231.40	+0.80	...
Money Fund	201.90	212.60	+0.10	...
Equity Fund	356.10	375.00	-1.60	...
TARGET LIFE The Exchange, 66 High Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. 01296 394000				
Deposit	251.30	264.60	+0.20	...
Financial Ser I	44.60	47.90	+0.10	...
Fixed Interest	320.20	337.20	+1.30	...
Gold	74.10	78.10	+2.40	...
Managed	589.30	620.50	+4.20	...
Mngd Growth	188.80	198.90	+1.90	...
Mngd Opp	199.00	209.60	+1.60	...
Property	333.10	350.60	+1.00	...
Residential Prop	101.60	107.10	...	...
TSB American	187.90	197.90	-0.60	...
TSB Brit Gwth	804.20	846.60	-1.20	...
TSB European	254.70	268.20	-2.00	...
TSB Income	365.30	384.60	-3.40	...
TSB Intl	391.70	412.40	-2.90	...
TSB Intl Inc	276.20	290.90	+0.40	...
TSB Pacific	379.00	399.10	-3.60	...
TSB Prem Inc	244.10	255.10	+0.10	...
WINDSOR LIFE Windsor House, Telford, Shropshire 01952 292929				
Managed Bond	659.60	695.10	+0.70	...
Money Fund	320.30	337.20	+0.30	...
Equity Fund	577.40	608.40	-8.10	...
Fixed Interest	271.70	286.30	-0.40	...
Property Fund	358.80	377.40	-4.10	..
Gresham Framlington				
American & Cnrl	569.50	600.10	-9.80	...
Income	713.80	752.20	-3.10	..
International Gth	602.50	634.90	-3.10	...
Capital Fund	580.40	611.60	-7.40	...
Recovery Fund	616.00	649.10	-4.90	..
Japan & General	244.60	257.70	-4.00	...
Formerly AEtna Life Funds				
Squirrel	18.22	19.18	+0.02	...
Bear	18.93	19.93	-0.02	...
Owl	19.67	20.71	-0.10	...
Bull	17.07	17.97	-0.15	...
Stag	17.84	18.70	-0.30	...
Gilt Edged	18.32	19.28	+0.02	...
Deposit	15.93	16.77	+0.01	...
Pensions				
Squirrel	24.79	26.09	+0.02	...
Bear	26.07	27.44	-0.09	...
Owl	26.34	27.73	-0.14	...
Bull	21.80	22.95	-0.19	...
Stag	21.77	22.92	-0.26	...
Gilt Edged	23.11	24.33	+0.02	...
Deposit	20.63	21.72	+0.02	...
Pre 1982 Series				
3-Way Fund	553.36	...	-4.62	...
1982 Series				
UK Equity	321.76	338.69	-1.30	...
N Amer Equity	271.65	285.95	-1.31	...
Far East Equity	345.14	363.31	-8.60	...
Fixed	288.75	303.95	+0.28	...
Cash Deposit	206.66	217.54	+0.14	...
Property	154.37	162.49	+0.43	...
Special Opp	325.30	342.42	-7.20	...
Managed	292.51	307.91	-2.57	...
Index-Linked Fd	186.77	196.60	+0.97	...

WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

Prompt payers of bills deserve discounts similar to direct debits

From Mr Kevin Masarati

Sir, How very interesting to read Richard Gilbert's article (Weekend Money, February 18) regarding the chaos caused by British Gas in offering its customers a 5 per cent discount to encourage them to pay by direct debit, and how odd that these instances always seem to result in the banks or the suppliers sitting on a cash mountain of their customers' money. It is because of my mistrust of the direct debit system (as well as of suppliers' estimates of how much I owe) that I will not use them. So, imagine my chagrin when, as someone who always pays by return of post, I discovered that this discount was not available to me for any other form of prompt payment.

In future, and in order to rectify this unfairness, I will now delay payment of my gas bill from my interest-bearing bank account to the last possible moment, thus ensuring that it is me that benefits from sitting on a cash molehill of British Gas's money. If everybody else did this perhaps British Gas would offer a prompt payment discount to those of us who have always paid on time.

Yours faithfully,
KEVIN MASARATI,
46 The Rise,
Hillingdon,
Middlesex.

Pay by results

From C. V. Smith

Sir, Would it be heretical to suggest that fund managers should not be entitled to a fee for their services if the fund in question does not in fact show some minimal advantage to the investor, on a year-on-year basis, over and above that which might be obtained, say, from placing money in an instant access building society account?

Yours faithfully,
C. V. SMITH,
Penmount, Llanrhidian,
Swansea.

Money vampire

From A. Gerrard

Sir, A vampire is a building society. I had an authorised overdraft facility, with Nationwide, of £500, and inadvertently exceeded this by £31 for one day. Wham! £10 fine, 10,000 per cent per annum. The next day, £150 was paid in, and in seven days the overdraft was cleared. The manager, like a poor veal calf, is "helpless". What bloodsuckers they are on a soft target.

Yours faithfully,
A. GERRARD,
Willowcroft,
Barcombe, East Sussex.

Credit where debit is due . . .

From A. W. D. Peacey

Sir, Bank-bashing is all the rage, but here is a letter swimming against the tide. I have banked with Barclays for 40-plus years and, apart from being "re-organised" once or twice, have had no problems.

Last month, I arranged a payment from a current account at Stamford, Lincolnshire, and in the same visit instructed the bank to bring down the corresponding amount from an interest account, but said that the next day would do. Wrong: a management charge appeared on statement. Phone call to bank to explain my error: rapid agreement to remove charge; pleasant letter to confirm, with only slightest tinge of admonition.

Are we getting too fond of going in with all guns blazing, instead of admitting when we are wrong? Mind you, the last time I was wrong was when I thought I had made a mistake.

Yours faithfully,
A. PEACEY,
Copsemead,
Wood Road,
King's Cliffe,
Peterborough.

Letters for Weekend Money may be sent by fax to 0171-782 5082. They should include a daytime telephone number.

The society faces two electoral hurdles and opposition from an action group. **Robert Miller** reports

C&G's future is put to the vote

More than a million members of the Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society should by now have received their voting forms together with the transfer document on the proposed £1.8 billion takeover bid from Lloyds Bank.

The 100-page transfer document spells out, for the first time, how the C&G board came to accept the Lloyds bid. The C&G has now embarked on a major campaign to persuade members to vote.

For the deal to go ahead, the society has to overcome two stiff hurdles. First, a majority of the society's 384,000 eligible borrowers who vote must do so favour, even though C&G's borrowers are excluded from sharing in the bonus payout. Second, another resolution must be supported by at least 50 per cent of the 806,000 investors eligible to vote, and of those who vote at least 75 per cent must be in favour.

Postal votes must be received by midnight on Sunday, March 26. Alternatively, members can attend the special meeting in London on March 31 and vote in person.

The cash incentives to members who qualify for bonus payments are generous, ranging from at least £513 to about £13,500. A further £25 million has been set aside by Lloyds to pay widows who were excluded from the bonus payout but whose plight has been covered by a Private Member's Bill currently before Parliament.

This week, Andrew Longhurst, C&G's chief executive, explained that prior to the Lloyds bid the society had conducted a "thorough" two-year review of its future. This concluded that to remain as it was the C&G would suffer from a weakness in distribution and reduced opportunities for profitable growth in the UK mortgage market.

Other options included an Abbey National-style flotation, or a merger with another society. A flotation, says C&G, did not address the key objectives relating to the enhancement of distribution and maintenance of the society's competitive advantage. An added attraction of the Lloyds deal over others, says Mr Longhurst, is that C&G will be allowed to operate within the bank with "substantial autonomy" and it will become the sole mortgage arm of Lloyds.

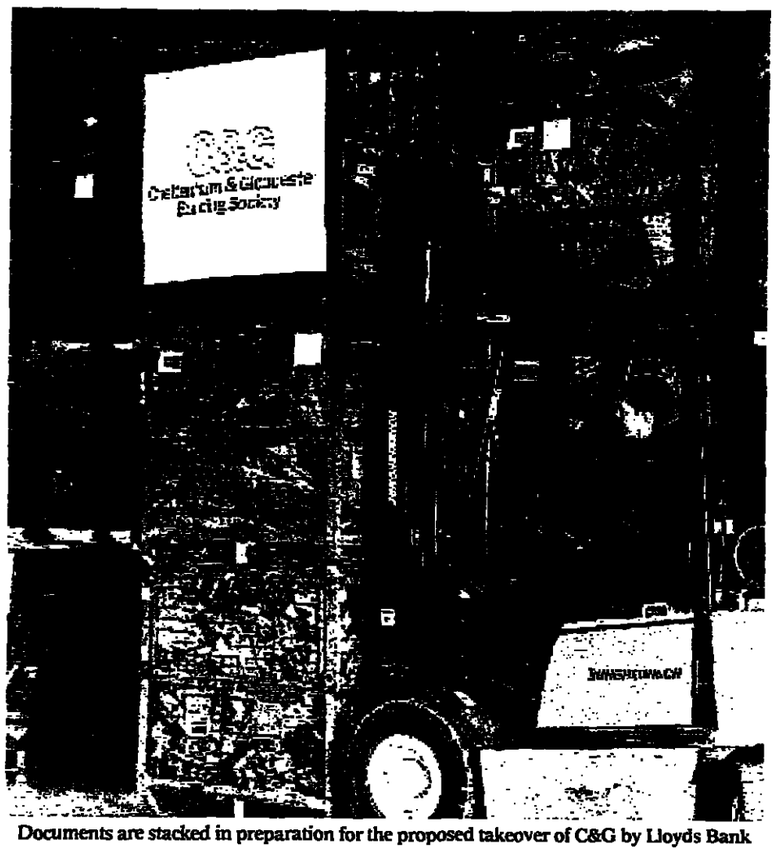
But between now and voting day, C&G can expect stiff opposition to the bid from the C&G Alternatives action group led by Paul Rivlin.

C&G Futureline: 0800 716094
C&G Alternatives: Paul Rivlin, 7 Floral Street, London WC2E 9DM

WHAT QUALIFYING SAVERS WILL GET

Qualifying investment balance	Fixed payment	Percentage payment*	Total payment
£100	£500	£13	£513
£1,000	£500	£130	£630
£5,000	£500	£650	£1,150
£10,000	£500	£1,300	£1,800
£50,000	£500	£6,500	£7,000
£100,000	£500	£13,000	£13,500

* percentage assumed to be 13%



Documents are stacked in preparation for the proposed takeover of C&G by Lloyds Bank

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In addition to its tax incentives, the plan has great flexibility. You can invest monthly, annually or contribute a lump sum. What's more, you do not have to commit yourself to making identical contributions.

Remember that the value of units and the income from them can go down as well as up. The above is based on current tax legislation which can change in the future.

If you would like further information by post and by telephone on The Equitable PEP, a tax-free savings plan, contact Equitable Unit Trust Managers on Aylesbury (01296) 26226, or send off the coupon below.

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I am interested in regular saving ☐ lump sum investment ☐ TM\WR

NAME (Mr Mrs Miss) _____
ADDRESS _____
Postcode _____ Date of Birth _____
Tel: (Office) _____
Tel: (Home) _____
We guarantee that no company outside The Equitable Group will receive these details. If, however, you would prefer to receive no further information from us, please tick this box ☐

Scottish Widows Guaranteed Bond

NO IFs, NO BUTs.

Guaranteed annual income
7.4% PER YEAR
(equivalent to 9.86% gross*)

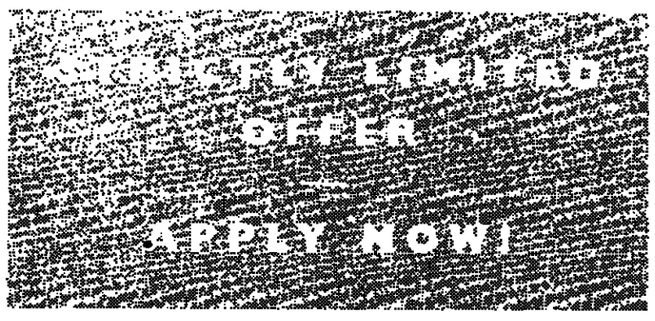
OR

Guaranteed capital growth
44.0%
(equivalent to 58.6% gross*)

Free of basic rate tax... over five years... with a money back guarantee

*Assuming tax at 25%.
Please refer to tax details below.





If you would like to invest a lump sum for five years and are looking for a simple, straightforward investment which gives you a high fixed income or high growth - free of basic rate tax - then here's your answer.

For a strictly limited period only, the Scottish Widows Guaranteed Bond guarantees your choice of a highly competitive rate of income or high growth on your savings - no ifs, no buts.

Fully Guaranteed - No Risk To Your Capital

As its name promises, the Guaranteed Bond is fully guaranteed. Since the investment is not linked to the stock market, there is absolutely no risk to your capital - provided you save for the full 5 years.

Your Choice

You can choose an annual income of 7.4% or a quarterly income of 7.2% for five years - and your original investment will be returned in full at the end of the five years.

Or you can choose capital growth at 44.0% after five years - and your original investment will be returned in full at the same time.

Provided you apply in time, these highly competitive rates are guaranteed. Since they are so high, though, these rates cannot be held indefinitely and we may have to withdraw this offer at short notice. So you must act quickly to take advantage.

Who Can Invest?

If you are aged 18 to 85, you can. The minimum investment is £5,000 (£10,000 if a quarterly income is chosen) and the maximum is £250,000. You can invest jointly with your partner if you wish.

Should you die during the five years, your full original investment plus any income or capital growth due will be paid to your estate. In the case of joint investments, payment is made on the death of the last survivor.

Early Investment Bonus

Applications received on or before 10th March 1995 will be enhanced by 0.3% - after 10th March but before 24th March 1995 by 0.15%. The Bond commences 3rd April 1995. Applications cannot be accepted for this issue after 24th March 1995. Please note that the offer may close earlier if fully subscribed.

How To Invest

Simply complete the application form below and return it with your cheque made payable to "Scottish Widows" (or if you are sending a building society cheque "Scottish Widows reference [your name]")

Please see the Key Features below for full details of this investment or if you have any questions please call our Customer Service team FREE on 0800 33 66 77. Alternatively contact your Independent Financial Adviser.

LIMITED OFFER APPLY NOW!

To: Guaranteed Bond, Scottish Widows' Fund and Life Assurance Society, FREEPOST EH3182, Edinburgh, EH16 ONE (no stamp needed). Please complete the details required in BLOCK CAPITALS.

YOUR DETAILS
Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Other)
Surname
First names (in full)
Permanent Address
Postcode Telephone
Date of Birth Sex (Male/Female)

JOINT APPLICANT'S DETAILS
Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Other)
Surname
First names (in full)
Permanent Address
Postcode Telephone
Date of Birth Sex (Male/Female)

INVESTMENT DETAILS
Amount of investment *Please tick one box only to indicate which you require:*
£ .00 Quarterly Income ☐ Annual Income ☐ Capital Growth ☐

If you have chosen Quarterly or Annual Income, please give details of Bank/Building Society to which payment should be made:
Bank/Building Society
Address
Postcode
Account Name
Account No.
Bank Sort Code

I/We understand that to the best of my/our knowledge and belief the above information is true and complete. The details supplied may be held and made available to the employees and agents of Scottish Widows who are managing my/our affairs. I/We agree that this application will form the basis of the contract(s) between me/us and the Scottish Widows Fund and Life Assurance Society. I/We understand that Scottish Widows may return my/our application and cheque to me/us together with a revised offer, if they are received after this offer has closed.

Data Protection Act. We will occasionally tell you about other Scottish Widows' products and services which we feel may be of interest. If you would prefer not to receive this information, please tick this box. ☐ A2100728

Signature of Investor
Date
Signature of Investor
Date

SCOTTISH WIDOWS

IT'S AIMS • To provide a high and guaranteed fixed rate of return. To return your original investment in full after 5 years. To provide the choice of annual or quarterly income or growth.

YOUR COMMITMENT • You invest a lump sum for 5 years.

RISK FACTORS • Your investment will not benefit from any general increase in interest rates during the next 5 years. Your circumstances could change, forcing you to cash in early. If you cash in early, you may not get back the full amount you invested.

What will I get back?

An example - investment of £10,000

a) If you choose quarterly income you are guaranteed to receive: £180 at the end of each quarter for 5 years, starting on 3rd July 1995, and £10,000 at the end of 5 years.

b) If you choose annual income you are guaranteed to receive: £740 at the end of each year for 5 years, starting on 3rd April 1996, and £10,000 at the end of 5 years.

c) If you choose capital growth you are guaranteed to receive: £14,400 at the end of 5 years.

Do not forget that inflation would reduce what you could buy in the future with the amounts shown. Higher rate taxpayers should read the section on tax.

Are the benefits I will receive fully guaranteed?

Yes, provided you do not cash in your Bond early.

What happens if I die?

On your death (second death if there are two lives) during the 5 years, the total of your full investment, plus any accrued income or capital growth due, will be paid. If the cash-in value at that time is greater, then it will be paid instead. No further benefits would be paid.

How much will be paid to my financial adviser in respect of this purchase?

If you have a Financial Adviser or Scottish Widows representative, commission may be payable in respect of this purchase, when we receive your investment. The amount, if any, will depend on the size of your investment and is allowed for in the calculation of your benefits. You will be given details of commission payable separately when your contract with us is concluded. Alternatively, if you wish to be given these details earlier, please contact us or your Financial Adviser.

What happens if I cash in early?

Warning: If you cash in during the early years you could get back less than you have paid in. The cash-in values shown in the following table assume no change in current interest rates. In practice interest rates vary and what you might get back if you cash in the Bond would depend on interest rates at the time. What you get back if you cash in is not guaranteed.

An example - Investment of £10,000

	What you might get back				Guaranteed Return
At the end of year:	1	2	3	4	5
Quarterly income option	£9,340	£9,470	£9,620	£9,790	£10,000
Annual income option	£9,340	£9,470	£9,620	£9,790	£10,000
Capital growth option	£10,180	£11,800	£12,800	£13,180	£14,400

FURTHER INFORMATION

Cancellation Rights: After your application is accepted, you will receive a notice of your right to cancel, together with an example of how your plan will work and personalised information about any commission and/or other payments. You will then have 14 days in which to change your mind. If the value of your investment falls in the cancellation period this fall in value may be deducted from your initial investment.

Cashing In: If you would like to cash in please write to us.

Tax: **There is no personal liability to capital gains tax or basic rate tax.**

If you take an income, an amount equivalent to 5% of your initial investment is paid each policy year free of personal tax at the time of payment. Any extra, treated as gain, may be liable to income tax at the marginal rate. This is the difference between higher rate and basic rate tax. All regular income payments, including the first 5% of each payment, are taken into account in calculating any overall gain when your Bond ends.

For higher rate taxpayers, any gain on income, maturity or death benefits will be subject to tax at the marginal rate. Bond holders should be aware that any gain could be enough to make them a higher rate taxpayer, particularly if they are already close to the higher rate threshold.

Entitlement to Age Allowance may be affected by payments from the Bond. Tax cannot be reclaimed by nil rate or 20% taxpayers. Any tax liability arising when benefits are paid will depend on personal circumstances at the time. The Fund in which your money is invested is subject to corporation tax paid by us.

The details contained in this advertisement are based on Scottish Widows' understanding of current tax law and Inland Revenue practice which can change.

Law: For legal purposes, the Law of England and Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland will apply, normally according to where you reside when you invest in this bond.

Queries, Complaints and Compensation: For further information or if you wish to complain about any aspect of the service you have received, please contact Scottish Widows at 15 Dalkeith Road, Edinburgh EH16 5BU. If your complaint is not dealt with to your satisfaction, you can then complain to the Personal Investment Authority Ombudsman (1 London Wall, London EC2Y 5EA Telephone 0171 600 3838). Making a complaint will not prejudice your right to take legal proceedings. Information on compensation arrangements is available from Scottish Widows on request.

Issued by Scottish Widows' Fund and Life Assurance Society, a mutual company. Company No.Z1 incorporated by Act of Parliament and having its principal office in the United Kingdom at 15 Dalkeith Road, Edinburgh, EH16 5BU. Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority.

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 01895 259 783				
Grofund Amer	180.40	193.70	+ 0.10	0.28
Grofund Equity	228.50	240.90	- 0.10	2.00
Grofund Euro	195.30	207.70	+ 0.30	0.50
Grofund Extl Bal	107.10	111.00	- 2.30	2.70
Grofund Gilt	72.47	74.71	- 0.12	5.62
Grofund Japan	151.00	160.40	- 3.30	...
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS 01203 553 231				
General Acc	510.60	543.20	- 2.30	2.96
General Inc	450.20	479.10	- 2.00	2.96
UK Growth Acc	344.50	366.50	- 1.40	3.03
UK Growth Inc	275.80	293.90	- 0.90	3.03
Higher Inc Acc	645.20	686.40	- 9.10	4.20
Higher Inc Inc	372.80	396.70	- 5.30	4.20
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	183.40	193.60	+ 0.40	5.97
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	89.15	94.16	+ 0.19	5.97
Nth America	261.60	278.40	- 2.00	.
Far East	319.00	339.40	- 4.40	0.31
Europe	266.30	283.30	- 1.30	0.65
Brit Excell	68.38	72.66	- 0.16	3.23
Brit Fndmtls Acc	98.13	104.40	- 0.10	4.90
Brit Fndmtls Inc	71.97	76.57	- 0.06	4.90
Global Opps	79.83	84.93	- 1.00	0.39
Balanced Acc	51.89	55.21†	- 0.23	3.18
Balanced Inc	50.62	53.86†	- 0.24	3.18
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS 0345 717 373				
High Income				
Gilts & Fixed Int	126.90	134.70	+ 0.50	7.92
High Inc Equity	153.80	164.50†	- 0.70	4.78
Worldwide Bond	260.80	277.20†	+ 0.80	5.48
Capital Growth				
American Growth	275.10	294.90†	- 0.80	.81
Asia Pacific	294.00	312.80	- 2.10	...
Assets & Earnings	246.20	261.90	- 1.40	3.06
Commdty & Energy	96.44	102.60	+ 1.40	.13
Euro Capital Inc	129.00	138.00	- 1.00	.70
(Accum Units)	137.80	147.30	- 1.10	.70
General	216.50	230.30†	- 1.00	2.36
Japan	110.50	118.20	- 2.50	..
Mastertrust	131.90	141.10	- 0.90	1.85
UK Growth Dist	111.39	119.00	- 1.00	3.08
US Emerging Cos	130.30	139.40	- 1.80	..
Income & Growth	364.30	387.60	- 1.50	3.22
Ethical	63.71	67.79	- 0.69	3.17
International	106.60	113.40	- 0.70	1.02
Dividend & Growth	57.13	60.78†	- 0.38	4.62
Global Gwth & Sec	66.36	70.77	+ 0.08	2.56
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 220 0733				
UF Small Cos	£16.08	£16.73	+ 2.00	.
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0800 833 580				
Amer Inc & Growth	43.45	46.11	- 0.13	0.68
Cash	50.49	50.49	+ 0.04	5.79
Emerging Mkts	63.60	67.40	- 0.83	0.05
European	108.50	113.20†	- 1.90	..
Exempt	937.10	993.70†	- 8.60	1.87
Extra Income #	45.61	48.74	- 0.42	6.18
Far East Emg Eco	106.70	113.10	- 1.00	0.55
Fixed Interest #	22.54	23.65	- 0.05	8.74
Fund Inv Tst	163.80	172.30	- 1.10	0.98
Japan	159.80	167.60	- 3.40	
Latin American	45.47	47.72	+ 0.27	1.82
Pacific	67.46	71.04	- 0.97	0.37
Property Share	60.00	62.99†	+ 0.31	2.17
UK Emerging Cos	60.07	63.06†	- 0.05	1.96
UK Growth	42.03	44.54	- 0.16	2.63
Abst World Port #	66.55	69.67	- 0.36	2.35
Ethical	59.87	62.84	- 0.12	2.80
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	49.11	49.17	+ 0.06	7.64
AEGON UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0131 549 3232				
British Growth	65.65	69.84†	- 0.60	3.00
British Income	76.15	81.01†	- 0.59	3.79
Select Portfolio	80.51	85.65†	- 0.74	
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD 01452 305 958				
Amity Income	70.62	74.93	- 0.45	2.60
Income Builder Inc	64.73	68.86	- 0.29	3.02
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	216.20	231.10	- 1.70	3.32
Capital	379.60	405.10	- 1.40	2.04
Balanced	632.70	676.30†	- 4.30	2.94
Accumulator	£11.74	£12.55	- 6.00	2.22
Income Trusts				
American Income	46.79	50.01†	+ 0.07	3.56
High Income	366.90	392.21	- 3.10	3.84
Equity Income	207.00	221.20†	- 1.70	3.77
High Yield	222.80	238.10	- 1.20	3.65
Govt Securities	32.53	34.35†	- 0.08	6.17
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	142.60	152.40	+ 1.50	0.46
European Growth	32.55	35.12	- 0.51	0.01
International	148.70	158.90†	- 0.50	0.21
Japan	184.30	196.30†	- 3.30	0.01
Pacific	351.50	375.50	- 4.50	0.01
Secs of America	415.70	442.30†	+ 2.00	0.52
Worldwide Asset Val	44.92	48.08	- 0.11	0.25
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	434.60	513.00†	- 2.30	2.46
Conv & Gilt	40.47	42.25†	- 0.05	5.35
Smaller Cos	156.40	167.10†	- 2.90	1.33
2nd Smaller Cos	145.00	155.20	- 2.80	1.55
Recovery	127.80	136.60	- 0.50	1.92
Met Min & Cdty	141.10	150.50	- 0.40	0.79
Overs Earnings	322.40	345.70†	- 3.30	1.55
Technology	155.70	166.40	- 1.30	0.01
UK Special Sits	419.50	448.40†	- 2.10	1.93
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 01293 526 911				
Charity Gilt Pens	35.54	39.25		3.94
Pension Prop Pens	59.59	62.62		1.44
BG-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD [illegible]				
[illegible]	67.54	71.32†	- 0.26	1.96
[illegible]	62.24	64.93†	- 9.62	
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD 0131 222 4242				
American	268.90	290.60	+ 2.30	
Bond	103.60	114.50†	+ 0.40	7.22
Brit Smll Cos	92.24	98.28†	- 0.63	1.91
Euro & Sml #	61.84	65.79†	+ 0.01	5.67
Europe	211.70	225.40	- 2.40	0.53
Euro Smll Cos	96.25	102.40	- 0.90	0.61
Income Gwth	325.10	349.20	- 5.30	4.55
Japan	272.10	290.60	- 1.80	
Latin American	62.91	66.67	- 0.95	..
Pacific	96.63	102.80	- 3.50	1.51
UK Smaller Cos	49.57	52.73†	- 0.32	1.44
Japan Fd	627.90	645.70†	- 15.10	
Mngd Fd	165.50	174.20	- 0.90	3.25
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD 0171 489 8673				
Brit & Overs	263.00	283.56	- 3.00	1.31
Capital Gwth	105.30	110.80	+ 0.50	2.43
Income Gwth	171.00	180.00	+ 0.20	0.44
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD 0181 534 5544				
Balanced Trusts				
Brit Inv Fd Inc	323.30	336.80	- 0.60	3.24
European Bd Inc	87.21	90.37	- 0.58	7.95
Exempt	69.46	74.29	- 0.45	5.00
Financial	70.12	75.00	+ 0.65	2.89
500	413.00	441.70†	- 3.20	2.73
General	256.80	275.20	- 1.40	2.94
Property	247.10	264.30	- 0.20	6.57
Trustee	168.60	180.30	- 1.10	2.65
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.60	100.60†	+ 0.10	5.60
Extra Income	111.50	119.20	- 0.90	4.36
Gilt & Fxd Int	55.50	57.37†	+ 0.20	8.93
Income	486.00	519.70†	- 3.30	4.39
Income Builder	58.80	62.55†	- 1.86	5.27
Intl Income	58.56	62.30	- 0.14	3.97
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	109.70	117.10†	- 0.60	2.67
Leisure	112.60	120.40	- 1.60	1.71
Recovery	385.10	411.90	- 1.08	3.05
Smllr Cos Inc	41.54	44.55	- 0.26	2.12
Special Sits	261.90	280.10	- 2.60	1.78
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	122.70	130.20	+ 0.50	0.86
Aust Acc	228.00	242.80	+ 8.60	2.33
Aust Inc	140.30	149.20	+ 4.00	2.33
Euro Gwth Inc	142.90	151.60	- 1.90	1.03
(Accum Units)	153.00	162.30	- 1.90	1.02
Japan & Gen Inc	153.80	162.90	- 3.20	..
(Accum Units)	155.60	164.70	- 3.30	.
Japan Spec Sits	70.36	74.53	- 2.23	...
Uni Tech Inc	74.78	78.71	- 0.77	0.02
Worldwide	155.40	165.00†	- 1.00	1.02
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD 0171 214 1004				
American Growth	88.64	94.09	- 1.03	..
Amer Smllr Cos	125.90	134.90	- 2.80	...
Convertibles	53.03	56.71	- 0.29	5.70
Eastern	247.10	266.50	- 1.00	0.19
Equity Income	83.44	88.76†	- 0.16	4.90
European Growth	287.10	304.50	- 2.00	0.80
Europe	211.00	224.70	- 1.30	0.28
German Growth	73.84	78.34	- 0.82	0.50
Global Bond	60.75	63.99†	+ 0.01	6.20
Global Growth	116.20	123.80	- 1.10	..
Japan Growth	184.30	198.60	- 4.60	...
Japan Smaller	155.10	165.20	- 2.10	...
Korea Trust	69.66	75.84	- 0.93	..
Portfolio	121.10	129.80†	- 0.60	1.80
(Accum Units)	222.80	238.80	- 1.20	1.80
UK Growth	78.67	83.89	- 0.29	2.20
UK Smaller Cos	79.92	85.47	- 0.23	1.80
Select Managers	70.00	74.94	- 0.35	1.10
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD 0171 250 3300				
Intl Gwth Port Inc	68.33	72.68†	- 1.82	..
Special Oppor Inc	49.07	52.29†	- 0.81	
For Brewin Dolphin see GEM Dolphin				
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD 0141 223 6020				
Balanced Growth	98.95	104.71	- 0.39	1.97
(Accum Units)	111.23	117.71	- 0.43	1.97
Smaller Cos	94.99	100.51	- 0.17	1.28
Higher Yield #	41.91	44.35†	- 0.21	4.78
American Gth Inc	69.09	73.11†	- 0.77	...
European Growth	129.90	137.46	- 2.59	...
(Accum Units)	132.48	140.17	- 2.84	...
Global Bond Inc #	25.22	27.17	+ 0.07	7.83
Mngd Ptflo Inc	39.27	41.53	- 0.32	1.72
(Accum Units)	39.82	42.12	- 0.33	1.72
Intl Spec Opps	105.36	111.49	- 2.03	...
Pacific Gth	113.17	119.78	- 1.15	.
Formerly LAS				
UK General #	69.77	73.83	- 0.33	3.73
(Accum Units) #	71.44	75.60	- 0.34	3.73
Japan	54.37	57.54†	- 1.41	...
Gilt & Fixed Int #	92.89	94.79†	+ 0.33	7.48
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 480 7216				
Short Dated Gilt	65.00	65.84	+ 0.15	6.21
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD 0161 837 5060				
Environ	145.90	155.30	- 0.90	1.82
UK Growth	158.20	168.20†	- 0.90	2.57
UK Income	125.80	133.90	- 0.90	4.64
CANADA LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01707 651 122				
Can Gen Dist	175.10	185.60†	- 1.50	2.13
-do- Income Dist	104.80	111.10	- 0.90	4.50
(Accum Units)	316.30	336.20	- 2.80	4.50
Gilt & Fxd Int	38.47	40.78†	+ 0.13	6.87
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD 0161 236 5685 Enq 0181 236 5685 Dlg 0161 236 5362				
American & Gen	147.80	157.30	- 1.30	
European Inc	74.71	79.08	- 0.67	0.60
Smaller Cos (4-1)	75.95	80.80	- 0.95	2.10
Growth	388.30	413.10†	- 5.30	2.67
Income & Growth	379.10	403.30†	- 0.30	4.19
(Accum Units)	540.80	575.50	- 0.30	4.19
Japan & Gen	63.43	67.29	- 2.48	...
Master Portfolio	£95.83	£99.54†	- 37.00	2.09
(Accum Units)	£114.33	£118.75	- 45.00	2.09
Special Sits	89.44	95.15†	- 0.53	2.63
High Yield	£12.28	£12.66	- 9.00	4.67
For Capital House see Newton				
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	78.61	83.86	- 0.14	2.62
American Portfolio	89.10	94.91	+ 0.14	1.23
European Portfolio	93.90	100.06	- 0.59	0.75
Japanese Portfolio	58.64	61.81†	- 1.47	...
Pacific Portfolio	127.16	136.74	- 0.51	0.85
UK Inc & Growth	71.98	77.24	- 0.13	3.45
Utility & Bond	53.57	54.17	- 0.70	7.02

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG 0171 588 1815				
Inv Fund	627.75	633.45		4.88
Fxd Int Sec	147.85	148.20	..	9.78
CENTURY UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0171 332 5000				
UK General Tst	58.46	63.25†	- 0.20	3.14
COIF-CHARITIES OFFICIAL INV FD 0171 588 1815				
Inc	618.67	626.52	...	4.96
Accum	576.31	576.50		
Fixed Int Inc	120.30	128.42	..	9.63
Fixed Int Acc	187.63	187.95		
CHARTERED ASSET MGMT LTD 0171 837 7687				
Intl Growth	109.36	119.33	- 2.46	..
UK Income	98.55	107.53	- 0.96	5.58
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD 0171 407 5966				
Beckman Intl	74.31	78.79	- 0.72	1.54
Beck Bio-Tech	26.59	28.17	- 0.72	.
Acorn Ethical Tst	144.74	152.36	- 0.78	0.74
City Fin Assets	63.74	67.81	- 2.04	1.32
City Fin America	83.34	87.73	- 2.03	
City Fin Intl	70.80	74.53	- 1.44	0.97
City Fin Japan	145.49	153.15	- 1.50	
Fnars Hse Cap	260.24	281.06†	- 0.57	1.75
Fnars Hse Inc	183.46	198.36	+ 0.23	4.25
Buckley Wrld Gth	114.37	121.67	- 1.87	0.10
Fenmnt Cap Gth	127.40	135.53	- 2.20	.
Fenmnt Intl	139.42	148.32	- 2.75	.
City Fin Pflo Inc	51.06	54.32	- 0.52	4.44
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	51.17	54.29	+ 0.64	..
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD 0800 373 393				
American Gwth	56.66	59.59	- 0.19	..
Atlas Mngd Gwth	34.09	36.46	- 0.27	0.44
Dragon Growth	62.36	66.70	- 0.67	0.42
Equity High Inc	77.82	82.79	- 0.84	4.26
(Accum Units)	104.64	111.32	- 1.13	4.26
European Gwth	48.96	52.08	- 0.32	0.96
Evergreen	26.76	28.62	- 0.35	..
General Equity	78.27	83.05	- 0.73	2.84
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	23.92	25.13	+ 0.09	8.27
Japan Growth	46.17	49.38	- 1.03	
Pedigree Gwth	47.32	50.40	- 0.12	2.83
Pref Sml Cos Inc	28.59	30.41	- 0.07	1.41
(Accum Units)	29.70	31.60	- 0.07	1.41
Retirement Inc #	24.11	25.86	- 0.26	6.21
Special Sits	35.63	37.90	- 0.11	2.10
UK & Overseas	44.80	47.66	- 0.41	1.45
COLONIAL MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD 01634 898 009				
Capital	63.08	67.64†	+ 0.06	2.35
Income	57.03	60.99†	+ 0.02	4.33
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD 0181 688 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	142.38	157.85	- 0.43	6.05
Fixed & Convertible	38.59	41.05†	- 0.12	7.49
Monthly Inc Plus	47.28	50.30	- 0.03	8.91
Preference Share	40.74	43.09†	- 0.02	7.52
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	115.70	123.09†	- 0.05	7.57
Managed Fund	62.85	67.90	- 0.73	3.70
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	35.97	38.27	- 0.23	1.77
(Accum Units)	41.15	43.78	- 0.27	1.77
UK & General	73.12	77.79	- 0.12	2.85
(Accum Units)	91.52	97.36	- 0.16	2.85
UK Growth	132.62	142.04	- 0.51	2.40
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	180.70	192.23	- 4.31	0.26
Far Eastern Gth	117.21	124.69	- 2.32	
Global Bond	75.91	80.06	- 0.15	6.28
Japan Growth	106.33	113.09	- 2.75	.
North Amer Gth	161.50	172.23	- 0.01	
Overseas Growth	70.33	74.79	- 0.76	
Worldwide Growth	60.92	64.81	- 0.45	0.09
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	93.00	93.00	- 0.02	5.83
Homemaker Fund	73.21	77.86†	- 0.05	1.94
Dollar Fund	117.96	125.43	- 0.29	2.57
CONFEDERATION FUNDS MGMT LTD 01438 744 640				
Growth Inc	54.17	57.62†	- 0.09	2.26
(Accum Units)	58.55	62.23	- 0.12	2.26
High Income	31.82	33.85	- 0.13	4.86
Japan	32.16	34.21	- 0.73	
Smaller Cos Inc	23.36	25.17	- 3.66	2.70
Smaller Cos	30.04	31.95	- 0.03	2.70
North American	31.64	33.87	- 0.19	0.73
European	35.71	37.92	- 0.23	0.76
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD 0171 497 5306				
Consistent UT	29.60	30.91†	- 0.43	3.53
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD [illegible]				
Growth	150.50	155.50	- 1.90	2.16
Income	64.51	69.05†	- 0.41	5.35
European	28.54	30.37	- 0.61	1.11
Recovery	145.70	154.40	- 2.50	1.36
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD 0171 283 9494				
Equity Dist	73.00	78.00	.	2.90
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD 01277 650 380				
Fellowship Tst	69.90	72.42	- 0.11	1.34
Income #	223.00	235.00	- 1.10	4.32
(Accum Units) #	547.10	582.00	- 2.50	4.32
Smaller Cos	147.00	157.50	- 0.10	0.62
(Accum Units)	152.80	162.30	- 0.30	0.62
Inv Portfolio	77.62	78.21	- 0.23	1.53
High Inc Port #	64.79	68.29	- 0.45	5.08
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD 0171 415 0177				
Euro Small Cos	£14.95	£15.32	- 13.40	
Japan Small Cos	£11.46	£11.69	- 16.60	
UK Small Cos	£16.76	£17.51†	- 7.80	
US Small Cos	£15.49	£15.58	- 33.70	
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS 0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	189.40	199.40	- 2.60	3.15
DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0131 315 2500				
European Gwth	264.00	279.90	- 1.50	1.00
New Asia	195.20	208.10	- 0.50	0.16
Japan Growth	102.57	115.70	- 1.90	..
Jap Smlr Cs	423.70	467.40	- 14.50	
US Amer	256.40	271.70	- 2.10	0.87
Dnfle Asia Pac 10	110.30	116.70	- 0.30	0.39
UK Inc & Gth	196.80	210.20	- 1.10	3.16
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD 01242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	130.30	138.60	- 0.70	1.93
UK High Inc Inc	139.20	148.10	- 1.00	4.86
(Accum Units)	178.20	189.60	- 1.40	4.86
UK Pref & F Inc	55.91	59.34	+ 0.15	5.26
Environmnt Opps	78.07	83.05	- 0.78	1.13
UK Smlr Cos Inc	47.00	50.00	..	..
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0345 090 526				
American	118.60	126.10	- 0.10	1.39
Convertibles #	19.46	20.68	- 0.13	6.77
Equity Income #	117.90	125.30	- 0.10	4.23
EuroFund	43.31	46.02	- 0.26	0.43
Far East	41.20	43.76	+ 0.05	1.71
Growth & Inc #	217.80	231.40†	- 0.70	3.33
High Dist #	144.30	153.20	- 0.20	4.90
International	354.20	376.30	- 1.70	0.13
Intl Cap Inc	87.61	93.52	+ 0.02	2.94
Latin American	24.93	26.49	- 0.02	...
Pacific	73.58	78.18	- 0.75	...
Preference Share	21.77	23.13†	- 0.08	7.13
Tokyo	198.10	210.50	- 7.10	...
UK Smaller Cos	209.60	222.70	- 0.30	1.23
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD 0171 242 0242				
Elcon Trust	197.60	210.76	- 3.98	1.82
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	185.10	196.90	- 3.40	1.06
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 01296 431 480				
Europlus	78.32	80.34	- 0.28	1.72
Ethical Tst	40.38	42.50†	- 0.47	1.46
Far Eastern	273.31	287.69	- 2.02	2.14
High Income	122.66	129.12	- 1.36	5.08
Intl Growth	110.53	116.35	- 0.16	1.37
North American	106.71	112.33	- 0.04	1.43
Pelican	109.42	115.18	+ 0.02	3.32
Smaller Cos	63.41	66.75	- 0.43	2.95
Special Sits	82.10	86.42	- 0.55	2.82
Tst of Inv Tsts	170.76	179.75†	- 0.33	1.67
EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 407 5966				
Smaller Cos Inc	189.48	197.37	- 0.10	1.48
Smaller Cos Acc	331.55	345.36	- 0.16	1.48
Recovery	47.94	49.94	- 0.93	1.42
Recovery Acc	48.47	50.49	- 0.38	1.42
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD 01392 412 144				
Balanced	107.69	114.58	+ 0.55	6.07
Capital Growth	75.75	81.23	- 0.24	..
Fnd of Inv Tsts	41.42	44.18†	- 0.18	0.85
High Income #	40.31	43.20†	- 0.23	10.65
Warrant	48.70	52.94	- 0.15	...
Zero Preference	36.63	38.86	+ 0.03	...
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD 01273 220 707				
Family Asset Tst	72.67	77.31†	- 0.59	2.64
Family Income Tst	45.16	48.18†	- 0.27	6.31
Family Trust	78.64	83.66†	- 0.19	1.62
Unitas Charities	246.40	262.00	- 1.50	3.95
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD Callfree: Private Clients: 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	...	6.09
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	25.49	26.58†	+ 0.18	7.70
Intl Bond	27.32	28.35†	+ 0.02	5.29
Income Funds				
High Income	23.34	24.56†	- 0.17	5.26
Income Plus	103.20	109.89	- 0.78	4.26
Amer Eq Inc	45.56	48.24†	- 0.14	2.04
European Income	40.04	42.58†	- 0.43	1.75
Far East Inc	58.63	62.35	- 0.06	2.59
Global Convertible	21.35	22.78	- 0.25	3.73
UK Div Grth	23.04	24.39	- 0.10	2.02
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	58.01	61.88	- 0.70	.
America	232.40	248.20	- 1.40	...
Amer Spec Sits	110.10	117.50	- 1.10	...
Japan Smaller Cos	34.64	36.95†	- 1.15	...
European	161.50	171.60	- 1.90	...
European Opps	60.15	63.96	- 0.82	...
Global Prv	23.18	24.70	- 0.50	0.59
UK Growth	85.15	90.54	+ 0.74	...
Growth & Inc	131.80	140.20	- 0.70	2.30
Intl PEP	34.46	36.65	- 0.13	...
Japan Spec Sits	83.48	88.87†	- 2.83	...
Japan	170.80	181.80	- 3.90	...
Managed Intl	254.80	271.30	- 2.70	...
Moneybuilder	49.32	52.45	- 0.49	...
Recovery	44.71	47.54	+ 0.19	...
South E Asia	137.30	146.40	+ 1.30	...
Special Sits	468.30	498.00	- 9.50	...
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	108.30	108.30	+ 0.09	6.00
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 814 2700				
Balanced #	120.70	128.50	- 1.80	1.99
Inc Pflio #	80.16	81.89†	- 0.06	4.10
Cap Pflio	131.40	133.80	- 0.50	1.34
Global Opps	114.40	116.90	- 1.30	3.60
Growth Inc	28.09	28.69	- 0.12	1.87
Private Portfolio	377.20	385.50†	- 4.80	1.39
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT Enq 0171 454 1434 Dlg 01277 261 010				
Hypo Foreign & Colonial				
European	108.00	114.10	- 1.00	0.62
Emrg Asian	158.70	167.80	- 1.40	..
High Income	20.54	21.81†	- 0.01	10.32
Osaka Income	86.57	92.74	+ 0.47	3.48
UK Growth	98.36	106.50†	- 0.80	1.86
UK Income	99.40	106.00	- 0.20	3.85
US Smaller Cos	288.00	308.00	- 2.40	0.12

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD 0171 407 5966				
High Inc Eqty	44.75	47.06	- 0.28	3.46
-do- Inv Tst Inc	71.15	74.82	- 0.21	4.41
Intl Growth	66.14	69.55	+ 2.01	1.32
Investment Trust	84.47	88.82	- 0.31	..
UK Smaller Cos	76.25	80.18†	+ 2.03	1.02
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD 0171 374 4100				
American Growth	53.74	57.54	- 0.89	...
(Accum Units)	53.74	57.54	- 0.89	...
Amer Smllr Cos	463.60	495.80	- 5.20	..
(Accum Units)	473.60	506.50	- 5.30	..
Capital Tst	285.90	304.70	- 2.30	1.61
(Accum Units)	408.40	434.30	- 3.20	1.61
Cont Smllr Cos	57.60	61.63	- 0.79	0.50
(Accum Units)	60.57	64.81	- 0.82	0.50
Convertible	119.30	126.90	- 0.30	5.87
(Accum Units)	241.10	256.40	- 0.60	5.87
Emerging Markets	62.52	66.79	- 0.99	...
(Accum Units)	62.57	66.84	- 1.00	...
European	112.70	119.40	- 1.50	0.14
(Accum Units)	118.00	125.10	- 1.60	0.14
Extra Income	308.70	328.30†	- 2.70	4.09
(Accum Units)	463.70	493.10†	- 4.20	4.09
Financial	116.90	125.50	- 0.80	0.30
(Accum Units)	123.10	132.30	- 0.70	0.30
Gilt Trust	61.10	63.01	+ 0.36	6.37
(Accum Units)	85.23	88.09	+ 0.60	6.37
Health Fund Inc	129.18	137.90	- 1.10	...
(Accum Units)	129.10	137.90	- 1.10	
Income & Growth	177.50	188.80	- 1.00	3.32
(Accum Units)	268.10	285.20	- 1.40	3.32
Intl Growth	335.90	359.50	- 2.00	
(Accum Units)	373.30	399.20	- 2.26	
Japan & Gen	154.40	164.80†	- 3.80	...
(Accum Units)	156.00	166.50†	- 3.90	
Monthly Inc	152.80	162.60†	- 1.30	4.11
Managed Port Inc	97.57	102.70	- 0.70	1.49
(Accum Units)	103.40	108.80	- 0.90	1.49
Quarterly Income	49.31	52.45†	- 0.05	4.83
(Accum Units)	52.94	56.31†	- 0.05	4.83
Recovery	317.90	339.98†	- 3.00	0.13
(Accum Units)	374.30	400.10†	- 3.50	0.13
UK Growth	50.55	54.03	- 0.16	2.79
(Accum Units)	52.29	55.89	- 0.16	2.79
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS Dealing 01705 881 330 Enq 01705 881 340				
FP Am Smllr Cos	107.70	115.10	- 2.30	0.0
FP Asian Growth	233.10	249.90	- 9.40	0.0
FP Equity Dist	356.00	378.70	- 2.40	2.81
-do- Accum	752.00	799.90	- 5.00	2.81
FP Euro Gth Dist	138.70	147.50†	- 0.60	0.46
-do- Accum	144.50	153.70†	- 0.70	0.46
FP Fixed Int Dis	128.60	136.00	+ 0.50	7.45
-do- Accum	235.90	249.20	+ 0.80	7.45
FP Intl Gth Dist	85.87	91.35	- 0.48	0.70
-do- Accum	89.91	95.64	- 0.51	0.70
FP Nth Amer Dist	180.60	191.30†	- 0.20	1.18
-do- Accum	199.00	210.80†	- 0.20	1.18
FP Pac Basin Dist	285.10	303.20†	- 2.60	0.26
-do- Accum	290.80	309.30†	- 2.80	0.26
FP Income	50.32	53.67	- 0.36	5.43
(Accum Units)	162.90	173.70	- 1.20	5.43
FP Jap Smllr Cos	305.50	325.80	- 13.60	0.0
FP Monthly Dist	67.30	71.82†	- 0.22	6.18
FP Stg Deposit	100.00	100.60†	+ 0.10	6.25
FP Tokyo	78.13	83.33	- 1.77	0.0
FP UK Focus	34.11	36.67	- 0.21	2.11
FP UK Growth	158.90	169.40†	- 0.90	3.0
(Accum Units)	307.70	328.20	- 1.60	3.0
Stewardship Dist	307.50	327.10	- 0.10	2.10
-do- Accum	376.80	400.90	- 0.10	2.10
Stewdshp Inc Dist	66.87	71.13†	- 0.09	3.67
-do- Accum	86.73	92.26†	- 0.12	3.67
N Am Stshp Dist	91.07	96.88†	- 1.22	0.84
-do- Accum	96.73	102.90†	- 1.30	0.84
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	101.00	107.40	- 1.20	0.94
Cap Gth Inc	102.20	108.70†	- 1.80	0.30
Cap Gth Inc Inc	97.67	103.90†	- 1.10	1.80
Cap Gth Inc Acc	100.10	106.40	- 1.10	1.80
Cons Gth Inc	99.83	106.20	- 1.10	1.65
Cons Gth Inc Acc	102.50	109.00	- 1.20	1.85
GA Unit Trusts				
American	44.15	46.96	+ 0.04	1.17
Australian	300.00	321.80	+ 7.60	0.0
European	194.00	206.30	- 1.50	0.74
(Accum Units)	209.80	223.10	- 1.70	0.74
G S & P	54.43	57.56†	+ 0.00	6.69
Gilt	43.43	46.69	+ 1.69	0.0
Intl	29.83	31.86	- 0.28	0.98
(Accum Units)	43.33	46.24	- 0.39	0.98
Smaller Cos	27.44	29.50		1.31
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD [illegible]				
GA Equity	220.50	233.20	- 0.50	2.65
Cash	49.40	50.14†	+ 0.04	5.31
Growth Portfolio	72.25	76.58	- 1.02	1.87
Income Portfolio	60.29	63.75†	- 0.37	4.84
GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD 0171 256 6441				
Special Sits	162.40	173.70	- 0.30	1.82
Dividend	79.32	84.83†	- 0.76	4.01
Intl Gth & Inc	200.70	214.70†	- 0.20	3.39
UK & Gen	41.16	44.02†	- 0.04	2.55
Fund of Funds	52.90	62.99	- 0.85	
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD 0171 710 4567 Dealing 0171 626 9431				
Amer Spec Sits	176.43	188.70	+ 0.60	
European	531.70	567.70	- 7.90	0.48
Far East & Gen	228.50	244.40	- 4.70	..
Germany	114.70	121.50	- 0.40	..
Income Fnd	145.40	153.40	- 0.10	4.72
(Accum Units)	151.30	162.50	- 0.10	4.72
International	294.60	315.30	- 2.40	0.25
Intl Income	76.53	81.09	+ 0.01	4.19
Japan & General	358.10	380.90	- 8.80	..
Korean Securities	57.32	61.30	- 0.57	..
Orntl Gilt Inc	41.94	44.75	- 0.31	5.36
UK Capital Inc	151.98	162.50†	- 1.10	1.43
UK Capital Acc	263.60	281.10	- 1.70	1.43
US Spec Sits	75.85	81.13	- 0.80	0.76
US & General	130.70	139.10		
World Spec Sits	135.00	144.40	- 2.90	
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS 0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	44.09	47.11†	- 0.34	2.65
Cash Trust	136.66	138.66†	+ 0.11	5.81
Personal Inc #	108.83	116.49	+ 0.26	3.53
Personal Units #	247.44	264.64	+ 0.58	3.53
UK Index	139.75	141.16	- 0.46	3.47
UK Smaller Cos	113.49	121.38	- 0.44	1.12
Income Funds				
Preference Share	25.16	26.93†	.	8.02
High Income	31.21	33.38†	- 0.15	5.36
UK Equity Income	126.22	134.99†	- 0.45	3.57
Global Bond	27.71	28.71	- 0.02	5.47
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	42.51	45.47	- 1.75	
Global Inc & Gth	124.78	132.86	- 0.42	2.50
Gold & Intl Res	99.89	106.83	+ 0.22	
Global Utilities	122.32	131.22	- 1.00	1.27
Overseas Funds				
American	137.50	146.89	- 1.37	1.26
European	95.56	102.41†	- 0.90	1.31
Euro Sel Opps	139.90	148.83	- 1.33	
Amer Emerging	94.94	101.54	- 0.60	..
Hong Kong	123.44	132.39†	+ 0.40	1.80
Japan	219.23	232.77	- 4.82	
Pacific Growth	198.28	212.06	- 2.33	1.51
Gartmore Personal Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	200.37	200.37†	- 1.41	2.24
Long Term Bal	219.67	219.67†	- 1.42	3.41
Med Term Bal	188.88	188.88†	- 0.16	3.87
UK Equity	226.59	226.59	- 1.32	2.69
UK Emerging Cos	132.15	132.15	- 0.22	2.38
American	228.74	228.74	+ 0.02	1.64
Japan	111.59	111.59	- 2.73	..
European	250.92	250.92	- 2.40	1.26
Index Linked Gilt	185.13	185.13	+ 0.70	3.03
Fixed Interest	152.76	152.76	+ 0.30	6.91
Amer Emergng	243.99	243.99	- 3.55	0.19
Pacific	212.38	212.38	- 3.46	0.97
Emerging Mkts	115.45	115.45†	- 0.50	1.07
Index Strat Japan	139.13	139.13†	- 3.65	0.32
-do- Pacific Res	168.30	168.30†	- 1.55	1.37
-do- Cont Europe	144.98	144.98†	- 0.70	1.90
Index Strat USA	130.81	130.81†	- 0.14	2.37
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	94.66	100.70	- 0.71	..
Med Term Bal	89.86	95.59	- 0.09	..
Long Term Bal	98.89	105.20	- 0.68	.
UK Equity	104.79	111.48	- 0.65	...
UK Emerging Cos	61.95	65.91	- 0.11	...
American	106.05	112.83	+ 0.01	...
Japan	53.59	57.01	- 1.39	...
European	104.55	111.22	- 1.07	...
Fixed Interest	77.28	82.21	+ 0.16	...
Index Linked Gilt	73.33	78.01	+ 0.33	...
Deposit	80.25	85.38	+ 0.16	...
Broker Unit Trusts				
Barkeley Intl Gth	108.90	115.80	- 1.70	
Barkeley Income #	105.20	111.90†	- 0.70	3.92
BWH Intl	128.79	135.57	- 2.15	0.63
Brcifit Gth Port Inc	57.32	60.50	- 0.65	0.60
-do- Inc Port Inc	53.64	56.61†	- 0.46	3.40
-do- Wwide Port	49.82	52.58	- 0.70	0.10
Shaw Utilities	56.59	59.73	- 2.01	2.90
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990				
& Intl Inc	519.59	552.76	+ 1.43	1.83
(Accum Units)	577.89	614.78	+ 1.59	1.83
European Inc	136.48	145.19	- 0.82	1.08
Amalgam Inc	136.78	144.70	- 1.11	..
N America Inc	321.90	342.45	+ 1.36	...
Far East Inc	306.86	326.47	- 5.80	..
(Accum Units)	317.84	338.13	- 6.10	..
UK Dvrld Inc	165.99	176.58	- 0.85	1.70
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD 0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7888				
UK Equity Inc	83.85	88.42	- 0.80	4.93
UK Small Cos	45.74	48.92	- 0.21	1.02
British Growth	50.73	53.55	- 0.25	2.61
American Gwth	159.38	170.47†	- 2.84	...
Japan Gwth	67.30	71.98†	- 2.00	...
Greater China	172.77	184.78	- 2.51	...
Pacific Strategy	145.26	155.38†	- 1.49	..
European Gwth	82.96	88.72	- 0.04	0.29
Intl Growth	136.30	145.77	- 2.02	...
US Income (£)	13.39	14.11	+ 0.08	4.90
FT-SE Mid 250 Ind	70.50	74.61	- 0.54	2.48
Monthly Income	35.85	38.21†	- 0.26	8.00
MIS Unit Trust Dealing: 071 865 0093				
Grd UK Index (E)	9.60	10.13	- 0.05	4.40
GRANVILLE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 488 1212				
Small Cos	84.77	90.18†	+ 2.12	1.70
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD 0171 528 9669				
Cash	138.20	138.20	+ 0.10	3.92
European	469.30	500.30	- 1.90	0.15
Gilt & Fixed	125.00	132.60	+ 0.40	5.67
Growth Equity	305.70	326.50	- 1.70	2.10
Income Trust	129.40	137.80	- 1.60	3.13
International	169.30	180.80	- 0.60	0.17
Japan Trust	116.30	124.28†	- 2.50	..
Nth American	252.60	269.80	- 0.20	0.20
Pacific	504.10	538.50	- 8.30	0.02
[illegible]	455.50	486.60†	- 2.10	2.06
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD 0171 522 2129				
EMU Trust	89.18	102.92	- 0.86	7.06
Global High Inc	98.46	100.08	- 0.92	7.24
Prem Fixed Int	100.49	104.32	+ 0.47	8.33
Eqty & Bond Inc	97.31	103.46†	- 0.84	3.20
European Growth	97.72	103.90	- 1.45	..
Intl PEP Trust	56.81	60.41	- 0.53	..
High Income	114.85	122.12†	- 0.31	4.57
-do- Accum	158.00	168.00	- 0.42	4.27
Recovery	348.00	370.10	- 0.60	1.66
(Accum Units)	399.40	424.70	- 0.80	1.66
St Vinc High Inc	116.41	118.15†	+ 2.60	7.42
UK Emrg Cos	232.20	246.90	- 1.40	7.51
UK Smlr Cos	329.60	335.30†	- 3.90	2.19
Glob Prn Tst	87.92	93.48	- 1.24	1.55
(Accum Units)	88.75	94.36	- 1.26	1.55
Inc Shares Tst	86.36	91.83	+ 1.66	8.43
HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD Dealing: 0171 220 5850				
Growth	24.35	25.82	+ 0.07	2.00
Growth Acc	24.35	25.82	+ 0.07	2.00
Income	24.00	25.45	- 0.02	3.50
Income Acc	24.00	25.45	- 0.02	3.50
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 390				
Model Pflio	186.30	199.80†	+ 0.10	2.72
Smaller Cos	30.46	32.40†	- 0.40	0.98
HENDERSON TOUCHE REMNANT Enquiries: 01277 263 290 Dealing: 01277 234 772				
UK Funds				
Special Sits	275.40	294.67†	- 3.18	1.21
Best of British	60.41	64.21	- 0.36	2.79
UK Smaller Cos	115.60	124.48†	- 2.42	1.68
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth	258.85	275.66	- 2.03	3.75
(Accum Units)	685.80	741.80	- 5.47	3.75

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
High Income #	296.42	316.87†	- 3.26	4.24
Extra Income #	352.41	379.07	- 3.06	6.00
Pref & Gilt	45.86	49.38†	- 0.12	8.66
International				
International	248.17	264.27	- 4.92	0.62
Global Bond	51.87	55.05	- 0.38	6.59
Family of Funds	76.24	81.54†	- 1.29	0.16
Global Tech	149.18	159.54	- 2.24	.
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	160.75	171.90	- 2.92	0.42
European	453.59	480.59	- 5.25	0.36
European Income	77.66	82.28†	- 0.79	2.76
Euro Smlr Cos	147.79	156.54	- 2.32	0.05
Eur Sp Sits	67.51	71.81	- 1.23	0.22
(Accum Units)	72.51	76.92	- 1.32	0.22
Japan Trust	196.23	208.81†	- 0.09	
Japan Special Sits	218.95	232.82	- 3.41	..
Pacific Smlr Cos	226.78	242.65	- 6.66	..
North American	230.67	245.40†	- 3.77	0.53
American Smaller	102.77	108.85	- 2.32	
Henderson TR Pension Portfolio				
American Growth	54.49	57.75	- 0.79	.
Eur Sp Sits	58.18	61.67	+ 0.32	.
General Growth	41.19	43.66	- 0.12	...
Global Tech				
Income Growth	39.92	42.31	- 0.22	..
Japan Growth	24.04	25.48	- 0.23	..
Smaller Cos	20.84	22.09	- 0.38	..
Special Opps	27.76	29.42	- 0.48	..
Wwide Sp Sits	45.25	47.96	- 0.63	..
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS 0181 686 4355				
British	91.72	96.04	- 0.13	2.20
Capital	161.10	168.60†	- 1.30	1.61
Dollar	335.50	351.30	- 2.30	..
Enterprise Gth	299.20	313.20	- 3.40	1.98
European	214.10	224.10	- 1.80	0.58
Far East	295.50	309.40	- 3.10	0.15
Financial	767.50	803.60	+ 4.80	1.57
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	24.83	25.82	+ 0.10	7.59
High Yield	97.75	102.37	- 0.70	4.36
Income & Growth	134.40	140.70	- 0.70	3.59
International	237.50	248.60†	- 1.90	
Japanese General	184.30	192.90	- 2.60	.
Japan Tech	74.31	77.81†	..	
Nat Resources	66.56	69.69	+ 0.48	
Portfolio	67.79	70.98	- 0.53	1.43
Smaller Cos	118.80	124.30	- 0.80	1.60
Special Sits	141.00	147.60	- 2.50	1.56
UK Emerging Cos	87.87	92.01	- 0.42	0.88
US Smaller Cos	81.96	85.82	- 0.88	
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD Advisors: 0800 181 890 Inv 0800 289 505				
UK Funds				
Balanced #	95.01	101.40†	- 0.50	6.44
Capital	553.80	591.00	- 1.50	2.54
Income #	524.20	559.40†	- 4.70	5.29
Fortune Fund	50.22	50.88	- 0.07	5.98
[illegible] Index	100.40	107.20†	- 0.50	2.19
UK Index	129.40	138.10†	- 0.50	3.25
International Funds				
American Growth	470.90	502.60	- 1.30	0.63
American Index	295.80	308.70†	- 0.50	1.32
European Growth	106.10	112.80	- 0.90	0.34
Eurotrack 100	151.10	160.70†	- 1.50	0.66
Global Bond	20.29	21.31†	- 0.07	6.29
Japan Growth	249.70	263.80	- 3.40	..
Japan Index	73.69	78.64†	- 1.87	0.04
Japan Smlr Cos	31.72	33.85†	- 1.01	.
International Growth Funds				
Asian	51.36	54.81	- 0.60	0.24
Hong Kong Gwth	88.24	94.17	- 0.55	1.50
Spore & Mlysn Gth	68.52	73.13	- 3.01	.
Tiger Index	187.10	199.70	- 5.60	1.45
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD 0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	28.57	29.65†	- 0.18	1.10
General Funds				
Managed	67.21	69.76	- 0.51	2.00
Robert Chld Fnd	79.68	82.70	- 0.07	2.53
UK Growth	56.63	57.96	- 0.12	2.49
High Income Funds				
Cashbox (Dist)	50.11	50.11†	+ 0.03	5.39
Cashbox (Acc)	59.09	59.09†	+ 0.04	5.39
UK Extra Inc	80.73	83.79†	- 0.35	6.73
Gilt & Fixed Int	25.66	26.45	+ 0.10	7.76
UK Inc & Gwth	38.02	39.46	- 0.23	4.09
UK Income	316.90	328.90	- 1.60	3.65
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	47.36	49.05	- 0.06	0.55
Amer Smllr Cos	110.60	115.00	- 1.60	.
(Accum Units)	112.00	116.30	- 1.70	
Europe Gth	145.50	150.70	- 1.90	
(Accum Units)	150.50	155.90	- 1.70	
Euro Smaller Cos	27.35	28.38	- 0.36	
French Growth	71.33	74.04†	- 0.62	0.36
Accum Units	75.52	79.42	- 0.68	0.36
H Kong & China	71.35	74.06†	- 0.97	2.21
Intl Growth	52.77	53.87	- 0.47	0.71
(Accum Units)	54.22	56.29	- 0.47	0.71
Japan Gth	29.63	30.75	- 0.78	
Accum Units	29.63	30.75	- 0.78	
Japan Smaller Cos	35.46	36.20	- 1.08	
Glob Emg Mkts	85.99	89.25	- 0.91	
Accum Units	86.60	89.89	- 0.91	
SE Asia	292.20	303.30	- 2.50	0.51
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond	51.75	53.31†	- 0.04	6.05

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Contl Euro Gth	62.01	65.20	- 0.54	0.95
-do- Acc	66.26	69.75	- 0.56	0.95
Extra Inc	242.70	258.20	- 2.10	4.29
-do- Acc	630.30	670.60	- 5.50	4.29
FTSE 100 Inc	93.55	99.53	- 0.41	2.90
FTSE 100 Acc	93.55	99.53	+ 0.41	2.90
German Gth	127.90	134.30	+ 0.30	0.12
-do- Acc	133.70	140.80	+ 0.20	0.12
Growth Port	516.30	549.30	+ 5.00	0.35
-do- Acc	524.90	558.50	+ 6.10	0.35
Hi Reserve Inc #	95.69	101.80	- 0.10	6.52
Hi Reserve Acc #	95.69	101.80	- 0.10	6.52
Income	463.00	492.60	- 3.50	3.26
-do- Acc	£12.42	£13.22	- 11.00	3.98
Income Port	493.50	521.90†	- 1.63	4.11
-do- Acc	520.40	553.70	- 1.90	4.11
Japan Growth	92.66	98.58	- 2.12	
-do- Acc	92.98	98.92	- 2.16	
[illegible]	55.01	58.53	- 0.42	1.58
-do- Acc	61.41	65.34	- 0.46	1.58
N American Gen	173.50	184.60	- 2.00	0.83
-do- Acc	200.40	213.20	- 2.30	0.83
NAm Sml Co Rec	133.00	141.50	- 1.10	
-do- Acc	135.80	144.50	- 1.10	
Pacific Basin	231.10	245.90†	- 8.10	0.30
-do- Acc	245.50	261.20	- 8.70	0.30
Small Cos Rec	338.70	356.60	- 0.10	2.16
-do- Acc	452.90	476.80	- 0.20	2.16
UK Growth	79.31	84.38	- 0.45	2.73
-do- Acc	96.41	102.60	- 0.50	2.73
Worldwide Gth	290.00	308.60	- 1.40	0.56
-do- Acc	427.60	456.20	- 2.20	0.56
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT 01392 282 673				
American	62.86	67.44	+ 0.31	0.10
General	80.67	86.55	- 0.52	2.60
Income	62.34	66.88	- 0.15	5.50
International	59.21	63.52	- 0.33	0.50
Japan	52.50	56.32	- 1.69	
Tst of Inv Trusts	63.32	67.94	- 0.16	1.40
M & G SECURITIES Cust Svcs/Unit Dlg: 01245 390 390				
Amer & General	376.20	397.90†	[illegible]	[illegible]
(Accum Units)	468.90	495.80	+ 1.73	[illegible]
Amer Recovery	435.00	460.00	- 0.90	0.65
(Accum Units)	497.20	527.80	- 1.00	0.65
Amer Smllr Cos	127.60	134.90†	- 1.40	[illegible]
(Accum Units)	130.40	137.80	- 0.50	[illegible]
Australasian	144.20	152.50†	[illegible]	[illegible]
(Accum Units)	176.50	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Capital	772.70	817.10†	[illegible]	[illegible]
(Accum Units)	936.60	997.50	[illegible]	[illegible]
Charifund	641.50	648.00†	- 1.70	6.56
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
UK Growth	349.60	370.90	- 2.50	2.95
(Accum Units)	454.60	483.60	- 3.00	2.95
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD 01620 825867				
Balanced Fd #	£12.33	£12.56	- 0.30	3.20
Income #	931.60	946.80†	+ 1.80	4.00
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	135.40	139.60	..	4.37
MANULIFE MANAGEMENT LTD Dealings: 01438 747 414				
Growth Units	187.30	200.30	- 1.80	2.55
Gilt & Fxd Int	162.90	171.60	+ 0.60	7.04
Intl Growth	196.60	209.60	- 1.10	0.71
North American	179.20	188.10	- 0.90	0.63
Far East	251.30	266.80	- 1.00	1.02
UK Smaller Cos	163.50	174.90	- 1.30	1.80
European	78.58	83.56	- 0.76	0.13
Japanese Growth	44.07	46.94	- 0.52	..
High Income	179.60	192.10	- 1.30	4.41
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD 01244 680 066				
M & S Inv Pflio	143.00	156.00†	+ 4.90	2.31
-do- Accum	164.80	173.30†	- 0.60	2.31
UK Sel Pflio	122.40	128.90†	- 0.90	2.56
-do- Accum	142.30	149.60	- 1.00	2.56
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD 01204 364 842				
Managed Tst	63.15	67.18	- 0.73	4.03
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0131 479 4646				
Intl Income	67.34	71.49	+ 0.16	4.56
European	78.19	83.00†	- 0.10	0.40
Income #	68.97	73.22†	- 0.08	5.24
Nth American	80.56	84.29	+ 0.01	0.58
Far East	152.30	161.70	- 1.80	
Japan	48.77	51.77	- 1.12	...
Emrging Mkts	83.98	89.82†	- 0.33	
Intl Growth	100.20	106.40	- 0.20	0.74
UK Growth	83.80	88.98	- 1.42	1.19
UK Smlr Co	43.51	46.19	- 0.13	1.02
Asian Opps Fd	34.49	36.69	- 0.44	0.37
MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD 0171 407 5966				
Income	395.82	421.19	- 4.12	4.24
Global Inc	66.50	70.74	- 0.58	2.92
Brit Leaders	332.43	353.65	- 3.73	2.53
Intl Leaders	195.46	207.94	- 1.06	0.79
PAM Mg Bal Gth	59.07	61.37	- 0.83	0.88
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD Dealing: 0171 280 2060				
American	194.80	206.70	+ 1.40	..
(Accum Units)	208.20	221.00	+ 1.50	..
American Opps	86.97	92.77	- 0.33	..
(Accum Units)	88.06	93.93	- 0.34	..
British Blue Chip	74.04	78.69	- 0.58	3.07
(Accum Units)	91.29	97.03	- 0.71	3.07
Cash	100.50	100.50	+ 0.10	6.19
(Accum Units)*	138.00	138.00	+ 0.10	6.19
Emerging Mkts	91.95	98.87	+ 0.15	0.14
(Accum Units)	92.03	98.95	+ 0.14	0.14
European Growth	240.10	254.20	+ 0.80	0.18
(Accum Units)	258.90	274.10	+ 0.80	0.18
European Income	80.93	85.48	+ 0.01	3.36
(Accum Units)	109.00	115.18	+ 0.10	3.36
General	472.10	502.80	- 0.70	2.46
(Accum Units)	920.30	980.10	- 1.30	2.46
Global Bond	120.80	127.00	+ 0.50	5.44
(Accum Units)	145.70	153.10	+ 0.70	5.44
Gold & General	188.80	203.00	+ 0.80	0.44
(Accum Units)	193.70	208.30	+ 0.70	0.44
Govt Securities	88.10	90.82	+ 0.15	6.26
(Accum Units)	171.50	176.80	+ 0.30	6.26
Income	139.70	148.60†	- 1.10	4.67
(Accum Units)	220.30	234.40†	- 1.70	4.67
Inc Portfolio #	91.06	96.71	- 0.37	5.38
(Accum Units) #	92.11	97.81	- 0.37	5.38
Intl Opps	433.50	461.80	+ 1.40	0.35
(Accum Units)	578.70	616.90	+ 2.10	0.35
Japan	154.10	163.30†	- 6.40	...
(Accum Units)	158.20	167.60†	- 6.70	...
New Europe	167.50	178.70†	- 0.70	0.78
(Accum Units)	172.90	184.40†	- 0.80	0.78
Pacific	109.00	116.30	- 1.70	0.88
(Accum Units)	116.70	124.50	- 1.80	0.88
Recovery	273.50	291.70	+ 0.30	0.89
(Accum Units)	349.00	372.30	+ 0.40	0.89
UK Smaller Cos	52.47	55.97	- 0.62	0.92
(Accum Units)	59.31	63.26	- 0.71	0.92
Portfolio	75.27	79.95	- 0.33	2.89
(Accum Units)	88.36	93.86	- 0.37	2.89
Managed Gwth	92.11	96.48	- 0.69	1.97
Managed Inc	97.61	101.30	- 0.30	4.44
METROPOLITAN UT MGRS LTD 01707 662 233				
Europefunds Plus	110.96	118.04	- 0.01	0.81
Portfolio	62.44	66.43	- 0.32	0.58
UK Income Inc	71.29	75.84	- 0.81	4.94
MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD Enq: 0345 456 123 Dlg: 0345 456 126				
Balanced	57.72	60.44	+ 0.01	3.31
(Accum Units)	60.73	63.59	+ 0.01	3.31
British Tst	79.82	83.06†	- 0.03	2.25
(Accum Units)	93.11	97.49†	- 0.03	2.25
Euro High Inc	65.60	68.69	- 0.16	6.63
(Accum Units)	127.08	132.98	- 0.30	6.63

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
FT-SE 100 Acc	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
FT-SE 100 Dist	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gilt & Fixed Int	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
(Accum Units)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
High Yield	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
(Accum Units)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Income	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
(Accum Units)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Money Market UT	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
(Accum Units)	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Monthly Income	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Midland PSAVCS Unit Trust				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
MILLENNIUM FUND MGMT LTD 0171 407 5966				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD [illegible]				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT 0345 090 933				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
NPI MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD [illegible]				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
N&P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD [illegible]				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
NPI INVESTMENT MGRS [illegible]				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
NATIONAL WESTMINSTER UT MGRS [illegible]				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD [illegible]				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS [illegible]				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
OLD MUTUAL FUND MGRS LTD 01256 768 888				
European Inc	251.25	269.00	- 2.60	...
(Accum Units)	265.60	284.70	- 2.70	..
Japan Inc	102.43	109.43	- 2.30	..
Nth American Inc	103.60	111.30	- 0.60	0.01
Worldwide Inc	149.30	160.70	- 1.70	0.44
Hong Kong Inc	125.40	134.70	+ 1.30	1.75
Swiss Eqties Inc	65.82	70.38	+ 0.12	..
Wwide Bond Inc	59.56	63.06	+ 0.02	5.47
Emging Asia Inc	201.30	216.00	- 3.60	0.28
(Accum Units)	201.60	218.90	- 3.50	0.28
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.15	50.15†	+ 0.04	5.69
Thailand Inc	160.80	172.90	- 3.40	1.33
Gold Trust Inc	66.71	72.42	+ 1.34	0.11
New Zealand Inc	83.88	90.58	+ 0.08	1.73
Int Mngd PEP Inc	58.36	62.71	- 0.57	1.24
Latin Am Emg Inc	51.69	55.97†	- 0.36	8.49
UK All Sh Mkr Inc	55.66	59.74	- 0.18	2.61
Broker Unit Trusts				
Global Trustees	72.51	77.55	- 1.17	..
Global Portfolio	64.99	69.51	- 0.81	.
Global Opps	63.08	67.46	- 0.89	.
Marsh Global Gth	58.89	62.24	- 1.79	.
AAM Global Equity	51.92	55.03	- 0.27	.
CAM Bal Gwth Inc	85.11	91.52	- 0.07	.
Temple Equity Inc	41.04	44.89†	- 0.32	1.49
Hadley Growth	69.49	73.65	- 0.64	0.38
Intl Growth Inc	81.37	87.03	- 0.82	0.82
IPS Portfolio Inc	76.33	81.70†	- 1.87	
St Jms Mlo Inc Inc	46.24	48.05	- 0.19	.
Premier Portms Inc	63.95	68.40†	- 0.52	1.44
Roxburgh Seal Gth	67.80	72.51	- 0.74	..
Tech Analysis	92.73	98.29	- 0.44	..
Rosebery Growth	46.07	50.33	- 0.07	0.05
International Strat	72.79	77.85	- 1.35	0.10
UFC Intl-Acc Gth	50.60	54.76	- 0.88	.
Coverdale [illegible]	46.57	50.34	- 0.96	.
Pram Equity Inc	108.70	114.40		
Lowes Intl Growth	44.36	46.89	- 0.08	0.87
PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD Dlg: 0800 626 577 Enq: 01733 470 470				
Equity	227.50	242.00	- 1.00	2.78
(Accum Units)	480.20	510.80	- 2.30	2.78
Growth	148.10	155.90	- 0.50	2.82
Income	228.30	242.70	- 1.40	3.92
Intl Equity	237.40	252.50	- 1.30	1.19
(Accum Units)	262.40	279.10	- 1.40	1.19
UK Income	62.13	66.09†	- 0.46	3.63
UK Intl 25	75.36	80.17	- 0.39	2.42
New Europe	75.84	80.68	- 0.41	0.60
PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT 01491 417 000				
Intl Growth Inc	551.95	590.33	- 3.59	0.33
(Accum Units)	552.52	590.94	- 3.59	0.33
Income	336.31	361.83	+ 3.02	3.41
Wwide Recovery	350.84	375.24	- 1.54	0.28
Amer Growth Inc	211.92	226.66†	- 0.44	0.01
(Accum Units)	211.92	226.66	- 0.44	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	225.60	241.29	- 1.72	0.01
Far Estn Gth Inc	254.05	271.72	- 3.58	0.29
(Accum Units)	254.05	271.72	- 3.56	0.29
Euro Gwth Inc	137.84	147.43	+ 0.39	0.77
(Accum Units)	138.19	147.80	+ 0.38	0.77
UK Growth Inc	85.94	91.92	+ 0.12	2.85
(Accum Units)	88.03	94.16	+ 0.13	2.85
High Income	91.34	97.48†	+ 0.57	4.18
Jap Gwth Inc	200.07	213.31	- 6.69	0.01
(Accum Units)	200.07	213.31	- 6.69	0.01
PEP Growth	111.02	118.74	- 0.57	0.82
Asian Sk Mkts Inc	117.15	125.30†	+ 0.57	0.01
(Accum Units)	117.15	125.30	+ 0.57	0.01
Amer Smlr Co Inc	123.77	132.38	- 0.12	0.01
(Accum Units)	123.77	132.38	- 0.12	0.01
Global Bond	53.98	56.87	+ 0.19	5.97
UK Smaller Cos Inc	76.86	82.21	+ 0.62	1.49
(Accum Units)	79.84	85.40	+ 0.64	1.49
PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 0191 201 2827				
American	93.93	99.93	- 1.54	..
European	68.26	72.62	- 1.68	.
Global	57.98	61.68	- 1.46	..
Pacific	53.74	57.17	- 1.51	..
UK Inc & Grth	61.43	65.35	- 0.57	1.95
POINTON YORK UT MGRS 0116 2550 540				
BN Director Dlgs	86.19	91.79	+ 0.21	0.35
PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD Enq: 0171 638 0808 Dlg: 01277 690 430				
Fund of Funds	149.44	157.30†	- 1.99	0.11
Emerg Mkts	43.85	46.16	- 0.49	.
PREMIUM LIFE UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01444 458 721				
Monthly Income	57.20	60.63	- 0.12	2.74
Growth Income	59.94	63.53	- 0.39	2.41
PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 01732 740 700				
Principal Tst	123.47	131.36†	- 0.16	1.73
PROLIFIC UNIT TST MGRS LTD Enquiries: 0171 280 3700 Dealing: 0800 262 443				
American Income	88.69	94.35†	+ 0.64	3.67
Conv & Gilt	108.99	115.90†	- 0.40	6.34

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
For Provincial Capital see Old Mutual				
PROVIDENT MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD 0171 522 3962				
[illegible]	165.90	176.40†	- 0.10	1.89
[illegible]	95.62	101.30	- 1.70	0.39
[illegible]	124.90	132.90†	- 1.70	3.34
[illegible]	109.00	115.90	- 2.30	...
[illegible]	117.90	125.40	- 0.20	0.17
[illegible]	86.23	91.47	- 0.24	
PRUDENTIAL (UNIT TRUSTS) LTD [illegible]				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
MILLENNIUM FUND MGMT LTD [illegible]				
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD 01892 510 033				
British Tst	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 2.00	3.34
ROCK ASSET MGMT (UNIT TRUST) LTD 0191 226 2555				
Managed	90.40	95.91†	- 1.46	2.32
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT [illegible]				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
ROYAL LIFE FD MGMT LTD [illegible]				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD [illegible]				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD [illegible]				
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
SARASIN INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD 0171 330 0572				
American Gwth	61.94	65.76	- 0.58	
Amer Smllr Cos	74.14	79.65	- 0.29	
Asian Gwth	105.90	112.83	- 1.53	0.75
European Gwth	65.21	69.38	- 1.35	1.80
Global Bd	59.51	61.93	- 0.28	5.00
Global Gth	56.94	60.57	- 1.23	0.50
[illegible]	47.94	51.30	- 0.71	
Japan Smr Cos	55.38	58.91	- 0.93	
UK Gen	49.79	52.96	- 0.74	2.80
UK Eqty	57.15	60.73	- 0.14	1.75
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP 01708 766 966				
Amer Inc & Gwth #	67.05	71.34	+ 0.30	4.20
Amer Smllr Cos	107.50	114.40†	- 0.10	..
Asian Smaller Cos	40.63	43.22	- 0.22	
Capital Portfolio	120.10	127.80	- 0.20	2.01
Cash	126.23	126.20	+ 0.10	5.98
China Dragon	55.41	58.95	+ 0.51	0.63
Commodity	116.90	124.40†	+ 1.60	0.40
Eastern Discovery	91.15	96.97	- 0.65	..
Emerging Mkts	35.21	37.46	- 0.25	0.42
Energy Inds	115.00	122.39†	+ 0.18	0.80
European Gwth	180.70	192.20	- 2.90	
Euro Inc & Gwth #	74.84	79.62†	- 0.71	1.24
Euro Smllr Cos	52.21	55.54	- 0.35	..
Extra Income #	49.37	51.00†	..	8.07
Financial Secs	194.70	207.10	+ 2.70	1.69
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc #	48.01	50.67	+ 0.14	8.94
Gold & Exploration	70.56	75.06†	+ 1.37	..
High Return #	213.90	227.60†	- 0.20	4.47
High Yield #	216.40	230.20	- 1.00	4.07
Income #	112.10	119.30†	- 0.10	4.70
Intl Bond	160.90	170.00	+ 0.60	5.76
ITU	195.00	207.40	+ 0.80	1.58
Japan Growth	160.10	170.30	- 2.80	..
Japan Smaller	158.70	168.80	- 2.50	..
Korea	58.49	62.21	- 1.26	.
Masterfund	51.90	55.21	- 0.20	1.31
Scotbits	294.10	312.90†	+ 5.80	1.45
Scotshares #	274.00	291.50	- 0.20	2.57
Scotyields #	224.30	238.50†	- 0.50	4.16
Select Intl	131.30	139.70	- 0.80	0.37
Smaller Cos Inc #	230.50	245.20	- 1.00	3.92
SE Asia	50.46	53.68	- 0.85	
Special Situation	118.50	126.10	- 0.10	1.03
UK Equity #	229.50	244.18†	- 0.40	3.07
UK Growth	61.02	64.91	- 0.12	1.53
UK & O'seas	154.60	164.50	- 0.60	1.31
UK Smllr Cos Gwth	44.12	46.94†	+ 0.01	0.96
US Growth	144.50	153.70†	+ 0.60	0.46
Univ Growth	131.50	139.90	- 0.80	0.74
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD Cmt: 0800 526 535 Brkr: 0800 526 540				
Retail Funds				
American	251.04	266.59	+ 1.60	0.97
(Accum Units)	274.19	291.18	+ 1.75	0.97
European Gwth	72.36	76.82	- 0.84	0.84
Euro Smllr Cos	75.90	80.87	- 0.97	0.39
Far Eastern Gth	88.84	94.76†	- 0.91	.
(Accum Units)	90.45	96.47	- 0.93	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	50.17	52.89	+ 0.19	7.21
Global Bond #	48.32	49.94†	+ 0.08	6.99
(Accum Units) #	53.01	54.78	+ 0.08	6.99
Global Emer Mkts	47.97	51.18	- 0.36	
(Accum Units)	47.97	51.16	- 0.36	..
Income	332.35	354.50	- 2.34	4.24
(Accum Units)	£10.35	£11.04	- 7.31	4.24
Japan Smllr Cos	433.49	462.36†	- 14.41	
(Accum Units)	434.35	463.30	- 14.44	
Japan Enterprise	60.32	64.34	- 1.61	
Pacific Gwth	123.17	131.38†	- 1.44	
(Accum Units)	127.16	135.63	- 1.48	
Portfolio	75.74	80.76†	- 0.35	2.08
(Accum Units)	82.27	87.75	- 0.38	2.08
Seoul	44.28	47.72	- 0.42	
(Accum Units)	44.28	47.72	- 0.42	
Smaller Cos	200.77	214.15	- 1.33	1.44
Tokyo	110.32	117.67	- 2.44	..
(Accum Units)	111.43	118.85	- 2.46	
UK Enterprise	237.02	252.82	- 0.36	2.16
(Accum Units)	284.34	303.29	- 0.44	2.16
UK Equity	225.90	240.96†	- 0.85	2.90
(Accum Units)	438.96	468.22	- 1.84	2.90
US Smllr Cos	159.00	169.59	+ 1.64	
(Accum Units)	46.16	48.08	- 0.25	0.65
Institutional Funds				
European	230.02	239.03†	- 0.96	1.16
(Accum Units)	255.60	265.61	- 1.07	1.16
Euro Smllr Cos	28.01	29.17	- 0.26	1.49
(Accum Units)	29.71	30.94	- 0.28	1.49
Global Equity Inc	73.51	76.57	- 0.58	0.95
Japan Smllr Cos	35.17	36.63	- 0.71	
(Accum Units)	35.44	36.92	- 0.71	
Mngd Balanced	178.34	185.77	- 0.73	2.78
(Accum Units)	201.21	209.58	- 0.82	2.78
Overseas Equity	178.28	185.70	- 1.24	1.23
(Accum Units)	184.59	192.28	- 1.28	1.23
Oseas Smllr Cos	118.72	123.68†	- 1.23	0.73
(Accum Units)	124.00	129.16	- 1.29	0.73
Pacific	231.11	240.73	- 1.15	1.19
(Accum Units)	252.18	262.69	- 1.25	1.19
Recovery	£17.03	£17.74†	- 6.41	3.09
(Accum Units)	£18.01	£18.76	- 6.78	3.09
UK Index	145.94	152.02	- 0.76	3.52
(Accum Units)	178.04	185.46	- 0.93	3.52
UK Small Cos	105.51	110.94†	- 0.40	2.97
(Accum Units)	114.18	118.92	- 0.44	2.97
US Smllr Cos	45.36	47.24	+ 0.24	0.65
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD 0141 204 2200				
Equity Income	47.57	50.66	- 0.08	3.81
Equity Trust	57.77	61.53	- 0.25	3.25
Equity Strategy	67.42	71.80	- 0.01	1.73
European Opps	83.84	89.29	- 0.81	0.98
UK Smaller Cos	58.92	62.75	- 0.61	1.57
Managed Inc	95.06	100.59	+ 0.09	6.72
Japanese	70.04	74.59	- 1.84	..
Asia Pacific	112.67	119.99	- 0.36	1.38
American	97.46	103.80	- 0.32	0.71
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD 0800 454 422				
Cash	30.97	30.97	+ 0.02	5.916
UK General Inc	48.90	52.16	- 0.12	2.84
(Accum Units)	62.80	66.98	- 0.15	2.84
Intl Income	251.20	267.20†	- 3.00	1.01
(Accum Units)	431.20	458.80†	- 5.10	1.01
European	77.21	81.78	+ 0.06	1.47
Japan	63.21	66.98	- 1.42	0.06
American	65.17	68.98†	- 0.05	1.92
Far East	80.53	85.90	- 0.41	0.76
Ethical Inc	28.27	30.23†	- 0.08	2.15
UK Blue Chip Inc	31.55	33.73†	- 0.18	2.96
High Inc Inc	34.08	36.35	- 0.13	3.44

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Global Inc	37.52	39.39†	- 0.23	1.57
World Tst	65.73	70.11†	- 0.82	1.25
Europe 2000 Tst	51.26	54.54	- 0.07	1.51
Technology	103.57	108.93†	- 0.85	1.51
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 0131 225 2211				
UK Equity	362.50	387.73	- 1.10	3.01
American	252.30	268.00	.	0.59
Pacific	356.30	381.10	- 4.30	0.75
European	531.10	568.00	- 3.50	1.25
Worldwide	83.81	89.64	- 0.36	0.59
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD 0141 248 6100				
UK Equity Inc	253.50	269.50	- 1.60	2.40
(Accum Units)	379.70	404.20	- 2.10	2.47
UK Sm Co Eq Inc	186.80	198.80	- 0.82	2.50
(Accum Units)	224.00	238.30	- 1.00	2.40
Select Oppty Inc	82.35	86.66	- 0.48	2.29
Income Plus Inc	67.98	71.87	- 0.59	4.50
European Inc	333.30	354.60	- 1.60	0.48
(Accum Units)	376.50	400.60	- 1.80	0.48
Far Eastern Inc	164.20	174.70	- 1.30	0.81
(Accum Units)	186.60	198.60	- 1.40	0.81
Japanese Inc	55.82	59.40	- 1.40	
Nth American Inc	233.10	248.00	- 3.10	0.50
(Accum Units)	256.70	273.10	- 3.40	0.50
Intl Growth Inc	189.70	201.90	- 2.40	0.70
Wwide Venture Inc	74.54	79.81	- 0.97	0.77
SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND MGMT 0131 668 3724				
Equity Inc	344.70	357.70	- 1.60	2.89
(Accum Units)	525.60	548.20	- 2.40	2.89
UK High Inc	174.00	185.60	- 1.00	3.83
(Accum Units)	251.30	268.00	- 1.40	3.83
Europe Inc	349.40	372.60	- 4.20	0.29
Nth Amer Inc	211.90	225.00	- 2.60	..
Global Inc	189.90	202.50	- 2.70	0.27
UK Spec Sits Inc	91.23	97.30	- 0.69	2.17
South East Asia	203.70	220.60	- 1.10	0.77
Cash Trust Inc	100.90	100.90	+ 0.10	5.14
UK Smls Cos Inc	95.14	101.50	- 0.20	2.16
(Accum Units)	97.29	103.80	- 0.26	2.16
Intl Bond Inc	89.61	94.26	- 0.31	6.74
SEMPER EADEM FUND MGMT LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Sector Recovery	137.00	146.10†	+ 0.30	4.50
SHARP (ALBERT E) Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Economic	122.18	128.50†	- 0.30	0.86
Nth American	102.30	104.70†	- 0.40	0.29
Intl Bond & Cnvr	118.70	124.90	- 0.40	5.70
Pooled Pension (C)	174.70	187.50	- 1.80	2.34
Smaller Cos	70.24	73.94	- 0.34	1.53
UK General	121.90	128.30	- 0.50	2.06
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD 0171 626 6226				
Amer Gth Fund‡	99.65		- 0.55	..
Asean	72.25		+ 3.13	..
European‡	119.80		- 0.78	..
Global Bonds‡	93.77		+ 0.05	7.57
Samsco‡	63.41		- 1.79	..
UK Growth‡	96.62		- 1.13	2.94
Tal Pad	97.61		- 0.64	
UK Emerg Leaders‡	97.01		+ 0.22	1.45
SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS 0171 637 5377				
American	294.90	312.10†	- 5.50	
Canadian	62.25	65.87	+ 0.27	1.02
Capital	115.40	123.70†	- 1.30	1.56
Cash	101.67	101.67	+ 0.09	6.36
European	133.10	137.70	- 1.50	0.71
Far Eastern	140.60	148.80	- 3.10	
Growth	126.30	133.60†	- 1.50	1.02
Income	122.60	129.70	- 0.90	5.78
Magnum	124.20	133.20	- 1.20	1.57
Smllr Secs	353.90	374.40	- 4.50	0.99
Thorogood	144.20	154.70	- 1.40	1.42
SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01202 298 422				
Cash	50.17	50.67	+ 0.04	5.70
Celtic Primrose	52.91	56.44†	- 0.09	8.20
Ethical	52.81	56.18	- 0.10	2.30
European Growth	71.72	76.50	- 0.32	2.70
Income	51.98	55.36	- 0.36	6.20
Intl Growth	95.53	101.90	- 0.40	3.07
Managed	79.67	84.98	- 0.06	3.80
UK Growth	58.34	62.23†	- 0.16	3.50
STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS 0800 393 777				
Standard Life Fund Mngmt Ltd				
Global Advtg Inc	36.53	38.51†	- 0.18	1.35
Global Advtg Acc	38.98	41.30	- 0.19	1.35
Income Advtg Inc	30.33	32.15	- 0.28	4.35
Income Advtg Acc	33.29	35.29	- 0.37	4.35
UK Equity Gth Acc	61.52	65.22	- 0.50	1.40
Standard Life Tst Mngmt Ltd				
Managed Acc	48.21	51.29	- 0.32	1.71
UK Eq Hi Inc Inc	34.66	36.83	- 0.10	4.94
UK Eq Hi Inc Acc	42.93	45.62	- 0.11	4.94
UK Equity Gen Acc	59.32	63.04	- 0.20	2.40
UK Equity Gen Inc	43.88	46.63	- 0.15	2.40
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	30.11	31.65	+ 0.15	6.52
Opps Lrg Co Acc	296.38	321.59	- 2.70	1.64
Nth American Acc	43.07	46.62	- 0.22	0.91
Far East Acc	63.12	67.07	- 1.12	0.24
European Acc	51.04	54.24	- 0.54	0.83
STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD 0171 344 7000				
Global A (AUS)	3.645	3.866	- 0.01	1.44
US Eqts (US$)	2.426	2.575	- 0.01	0.67
Far East Eqts (yen)	220.60	234.30	- 0.60	..
Japan Eqties (yen)	205.60	218.40	- 3.70	..
FT Europe	121.50	129.00	- 2.80	1.53
FT N Amer (US$)	1.837	1.948	+ 0.00	0.92
FT Japan (yen)	209.50	222.50	+ 1.20	..
FT Asia Exjap (US$)	2.342	2.487	..	0.99
STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0131 226 3271				
American	364.90	388.60	- 0.60	...
British #	955.97	£10.11	- 3.40	3.53
Emrging Mkts	131.50	140.80	- 1.10	..
European	513.70	550.20	- 2.80	0.63
Japan	133.20	142.50	- 3.60	..
New Pacific	358.40	383.20	- 0.40	0.75
(Accum Units)	377.80	403.90	- 0.40	0.75
Inv Trust Acc	243.30	257.90	- 0.30	0.89
Mngd Equity	164.10	173.60	- 0.62	1.45
Mngd Cash	95.92	95.92	+ 0.07	5.76
SUN ALLIANCE UNIT TST MGMT LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 389				
Equity	772.60	826.30†	- 5.60	3.13
North America	120.80	129.20†	- 0.90	1.06
Far East	134.90	144.30†	- 1.20	0.39
Wwide Bond	56.96	59.51	+ 0.12	5.64
European	100.70	107.70	- 1.20	
Equity Income	84.95	90.86	- 0.90	4.54
Portfolio	81.44	87.10	- 0.61	1.40
UK Leading Cos	57.36	61.18	- 0.17	3.08
Broker Trusts				
Intnl Equity	61.96	66.27	- 1.16	..
SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD 0800 525 725				
American Growth	33.35	35.67	- 0.20	0.72
Managed Assets	120.63	129.02	- 0.32	2.77
UK Income	38.29	40.96	- 0.66	3.36
UK Growth	37.06	39.64	- 0.12	2.59
Worldwide Growth	33.59	35.93	- 0.19	0.67
SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD Admin & Enq: 0171 606 4044 Dlg: 0171 606 6010				
Discretionary	45.40	48.30	- 0.99	..
Cap Protector Inc	40.56	43.38	- 0.30	2.63
UK Income Inc	47.97	51.30†	- 0.54	3.18
Mngd Euro Inc Inc	31.69	34.17†	- 0.21	3.69
Mngd High Yld Inc	76.76	81.65	- 0.68	4.23
Mngd Inc/Gth Inc	70.99	75.93	- 0.41	3.37
UK Smaller Cos	32.22	34.48	- 0.11	1.93
Pacific Gth Port	43.88	46.91†	- 0.19	0.37
TSB UNIT TRUSTS 01264 346 794				
American	202.63	214.43	- 1.04	
(Accum Units)	223.19	236.18	- 1.14	..
Bal Growth	91.38	96.70	- 0.10	2.24
(Accum Units)	109.97	116.37	- 0.12	2.24
European	100.30	106.14†	- 0.97	0.69
(Accum Units)	106.66	112.87†	- 1.03	0.69
Extra Income	180.78	191.28†	- 1.89	4.52
(Accum Units)	311.32	329.44†	- 3.25	4.52
Smaller Cos	67.18	71.09	- 0.29	1.70
(Accum Units)	75.35	79.74	- 0.33	1.70
General	264.74	280.15†	- 0.25	2.56
(Accum Units)	547.99	579.89	- 0.51	2.56
Premier Income	47.46	49.44†	+ 0.03	6.44
(Accum Units)	108.44	112.96†	+ 0.08	6.44
Income	313.47	331.71	- 3.55	4.14
(Accum Units)	687.31	727.32	- 7.77	4.14
Pacific	379.40	401.48	- 4.30	...
(Accum Units)	398.65	421.85	- 4.52	..
International	502.65	531.91	- 4.09	0.27
(Accum Units)	660.05	699.42	- 5.38	0.27
Nat Resources	145.11	153.56	+ 1.96	..
[illegible] Opps	98.36	105.14	- 1.22	1.57
(Accum Units)	126.49	133.85	- 1.55	1.57
Environmental Inv	59.57	62.98†	- 0.13	1.84
Selector	58.76	62.18	- 0.46	2.35
(Accum Units)	66.28	70.14	- 0.51	2.35
High Income	60.08	64.53	- 0.55	4.89
(Accum Units)	77.69	82.21	- 0.70	4.89
Intl Income	56.96	60.27	- 0.02	5.07
(Accum Units)	70.03	74.10	- 0.03	5.07
Selector Income	58.30	61.69	- 0.33	4.98
(Accum Units)	68.46	72.45	- 0.39	4.98
TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED 0181 667 1018				
British	308.50	324.70	- 2.90	2.98
TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 469 4000				
Glob Growth Inc	197.08	210.78†	- 0.58	1.75
Glob Balncd Inc	167.80	179.46	- 1.11	3.36
Value Tst Inc	117.71	125.89	- 0.92	1.63
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD 0171 246 3000 Dealing: 0171 246 3001				
Dresdner Eur Bd	38.27	41.25†	- 0.04	7.70
European Growth	265.53	281.35	- 1.55	0.50
Exempt	502.80	525.83†	- 0.26	3.28
Global Em Mkts	77.88	83.07	- 2.60	0.40
Japan Tst	71.62	76.12	- 2.22	...
Little Dragons	83.63	89.41	- 0.59	.
Nth Amer Gwth	225.74	240.29†	- 1.08	0.60
Oriental Income	42.39	45.21	- 0.69	2.50
Preference	126.35	135.13	- 0.07	8.70
Tiger	261.30	278.72	- 3.74	.
(Accum Units)	274.52	292.65	- 3.93	..
UK Blue Chip	59.09	63.08†	+ 0.02	2.10
UK Growth	480.50	513.80†	- 0.97	2.59
UK High Yield	98.48	105.32†	- 0.31	4.80
(Accum Units)	319.55	341.70†	- 1.02	4.80
UK Mid-Cap	237.80	254.11	- 2.32	2.50
UK Smlr Cos	95.95	102.62†	- 0.54	1.10
UK Smlr Cos Div	84.92	90.82†	- 0.19	5.30
UNITED FRIENDLY UT TST MGMT LTD 01277 690 336				
UK Equity Income	94.13	100.14†	- 0.26	3.25
UK Equity Growth	83.09	88.39	- 0.53	2.57
European	68.05	72.39	- 0.44	1.02
Nth American	67.82	72.15	- 0.29	1.22
Far Eastern	66.41	70.65	- 0.48	0.92
Money	67.25	67.25†	+ 0.05	4.27
Fixed Interest	70.49	74.99†	- 0.03	6.60
Index Linked Gilt	64.80	68.94	+ 0.28	1.36
WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0131 225 1551				
Australasian Gold	24.81	26.39	+ 0.66	..
Pacific Basin	42.54	45.25	+ 0.33	...
Global Bond (US$)	0.85	0.89	+ 0.01	...
Penny Share	31.90	33.93	- 0.44	...
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 600 0482				
Challenger	93.24	95.39	+ 0.08	...
Short Dtd Gilt	110.70	112.20	+ 0.20	...
US Govt Bd (US$)	0.73	0.74	+ 0.00	0.84
Gilt Income	49.04	51.03	+ 0.03	7.75
Gilt Growth	69.14	71.96	+ 0.06	..
City Reserve	52.13	52.13	- 0.03	5.62
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0181 298 4000				
Intl Mgd	47.52	50.24	+ 0.04	1.27
UK Stockmarket	74.47	79.21	- 0.40	2.69

Source: Finstat

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; ... No significant data. # Periodic Charge deducted from capital; @ Exit Charge.



ISSUED BY HM TREASURY AND APPROVED BY KLEINWORT BENSON LIMITED AND BARCLAYS DE ZOETE WEDD LIMITED, MEMBERS OF SFA. ANY APPLICATION FOR SHARES SHOULD BE BASED ON THE PROSPECTUS ALONE.

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD 0171 581 3020				
American Cap	131.70	140.00	+ 0.40	
Income	140.46	149.42†	- 0.17	4.08
UK Growth	51.68	54.98†	- 0.20	0.64
International	71.12	75.65†	- 0.80	0.08
Ecology	75.56	80.38	- 0.59	1.34
European	118.42	125.80	- 0.60	
Far Eastern	277.10	294.80	- 2.50	
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS Dealers: 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Extra Income	47.53	50.59	- 0.59	7.81
Gilt Yield	112.40	118.60	+ 0.30	6.75
Global Income	199.50	212.20†	- 2.50	4.26
High Yield	130.00	138.30†	- 0.90	6.39
(Accum Units)	393.20	418.30†	- 2.40	6.39
Smlr Cos Div	48.35	51.44†	- 0.17	3.26
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smlr Cos	86.18	91.68†	- 0.55	..
North American	74.43	79.18	- 0.19	0.16
European Special	104.60	111.30	- 0.70	0.13
European	146.80	156.20	- 1.60	0.38
(Accum Units)	192.80	205.10	- 2.00	0.38
General	257.80	274.30†	- 1.90	3.30
Global Eqty Inc	94.79	100.00	..	1.20
Japan	370.30	393.90	- 8.40	
Japanese Special	207.90	221.20	- 8.30	..
Master Accum	222.20	236.40	- 1.60	0.58
Pacific	301.70	321.00	- 2.70	..
(Accum Units)	353.90	376.50	- 3.20	..
Smaller Cos	101.70	108.20	- 0.70	0.64
UK Equity Growth	38.40	39.72†	- 0.12	1.68
KNIGHT WILLIAMS PRTFOL MGRS 0171 629 1683				
Global Inc & Gth	58.15	61.86	- 0.40	
Inv Trust	61.91	65.86	- 0.24	
Cautious Inc/Gth	55.97	59.54	- 0.04	1.50
High Inc Acc	53.63	57.05	- 0.14	4.00
L & C UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 588 2800				
Income	542.80	553.90†	- 8.80	6.12
Intl & General	384.90	392.60†	- 2.80	0.01
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT 0171 407 5966				
Bridge Income	249.60	265.63	- 2.60	5.65
Inc & Growth Inc	53.0	56.38†	- 0.29	4.81
Smaller Cos	52.80	56.17	- 0.40	1.46
LAURENTIAN UNIT TST MGMT LTD Enq: 01452 371 500 Dlg: 01452 371 623				
Growth Trust	231.50	246.20	- 0.70	2.05
High Income	101.10	107.50	- 1.40	4.52
International	92.56	98.46	- 0.59	0.57
Recovery Trust	59.85	63.66	- 0.43	1.51
European Trust	78.58	83.59†	- 1.22	0.56
Japanese Trust	39.24	41.74†	- 1.28	..
American Trust	84.09	89.45	- 0.86	0.53
Managed	63.10	67.12†	- 1.17	0.69
Cash	51.41	51.41	+ 0.04	4.96
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0171 374 0916				
UK Cap	339.50	345.40†	- 3.50	2.83
UK Inc/Gth	365.46	372.10†	- 2.10	3.48
UK Income	257.00	261.10†	- 1.70	4.47
UK Sm Cos	222.50	231.60†	- 0.70	2.11
Euro Gwth	121.10	122.00	- 2.80	...
N Amr Gwth	78.78	80.59	- 0.98	0.11
Japan Growth	59.73	60.47	- 0.21	...
Money Mkt	122.42*	122.42	+ 0.28	1.510
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 395				
Equity Dist	445.70	474.10	- 2.10	2.79
(Accum Units)	876.60	932.60	- 4.20	2.76
Equity Income	91.90	97.77†	- 0.45	4.18
UK Tactical Allocn	52.12	56.41	- 0.22	3.15
European	111.50	118.60†	- 1.00	0.99
Far Eastern	202.30	215.20	- 4.50	..
Fixed Interest	50.24	53.45	+ 0.11	6.65
Gilt	86.60	91.83	+ 0.30	6.77
Global Growth	69.50	73.94	- 1.00	0.11
Intl Bond	50.24	53.36†	- 0.15	5.28
Japanese	64.95	69.10	- 1.84	..
North American	141.80	151.00†	- 0.60	1.05
Pacific Growth	101.90	108.40	- 1.20	0.41
UK Index	58.11	62.39	- 0.21	3.29
UK Recovery	85.09	90.52	- 0.64	1.93
UK Smaller Cos	113.90	121.20	- 0.80	1.56
US Index	58.92	62.19	- 0.24	1.82
European Index	71.80	75.78†	- 0.64	1.58
Japan Index	38.37	40.50	- 1.02	..
Worldwide	78.27	83.27	- 0.88	1.59
LINCOLN NATIONAL 0181 932 8878 Dealing: 0800 262 621				
Growth	47.54	50.84†	- 0.26	2.15
Income	55.64	59.83†	- 0.57	3.14
Far East	48.39	51.75	- 0.53	..
North America	88.35	94.49	- 2.16	...
Global	84.23	89.89	- 1.64	0.34
European	82.80	88.56	- 0.68	0.36
Japan	98.73	105.60	- 1.00	..
Intl Currency Bd	56.56	60.80	- 0.07	4.11
SE Asia	94.69	101.30	- 2.20	..
UK Cap Growth	87.53	93.61	- 1.32	1.52
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD Helpdesk: 01634 834 339 Dealing: 01634 834 313				
Balanced	319.40	339.80	- 1.30	3.02
-do- Acc	726.30	772.70	- 2.90	3.07

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ABI, Anna, Gabi: happy unattached gorgeous girls 40 something WLTM 3 dishy dinner companions. Tall, wealthy, happy, healthy, normal guys for super evenings out. London and all points South. Please Reply to Box No 4086

A Few Good Men. OK I'm a reasonable woman, one would be amazing! Are you tall, slim, amusing, late 30's - 40's, a n/s, interesting and fun to be with? I'm 45, slim, bubbly, intelligent, attractive, like cinema, theatre, R4 & Capital, MC's, rocky English coastline, TLC, cooking scrummy dinners, travel & lots more! There must be one decent man out there. Please write & tell me why it's you and I'll call for a chat. (Surrey)Reply Box No 3927

AFRICAN professional female, 35, separated, intent on living in NY/C? Tall, slim, attractive looks/personality, sophisticated, unconventional, very self- aware. Main interests are, theatre, cinema, travel, health /fitness, reading /writing. Are you my male equivalent? Any nationality, 6ft or more, n/s, 36-45 Recent photo pls.Reply to Box No 3989

AIRLINE lady attractive 39 seeks tall attractive business or prof man 35-45yrs view wining /dining - long-term relationship Distance no object.Box No 3975

AN attractive divorced lady 49 5'8" semi-retired. Seeks genuine, successful prof/bus gentleman tall 50/60yrs active sincere caring for a quality life - lasting relationship/marriage Kent/Surrey also Som/Dorset borders Reply to Box No 4018

AN elegant cultured warm-hearted slim divorced lady good life-style interests incl. arts travel wining & dining seeks similar minded gent over 5'9" under 64 Home counties. Phone no with genuine replies to Box No 4010

AN intelligent, affectionate, positive but not-opinionated man (48-55) is sought by a dark, vivacious, academic lady for that special friendship Please Reply to Box No 3669

A perfect match. Female, 5'6", London, attractive, slim, elegant, intelligent, loves life, home, travelling, gardening, tai chi, countryside pets, etc. With my unique, varied abilities I can help turn any humble abode into a glorious palace Scientifically the perfect match to me is a male born in 1944/48/49/53 attractive, intelligent open-minded, adventurous, perceptive, GSOH, great inner strength and able to provide me with help., support, security, care, etc.Reply to Box No 4040

ARE there any attractive, intelligent single professional men living in the North who would like to meet an outgoing, feminine company director (42) who has many friends and interests but who would love to create a special, permanent relationship with the right man. Please Reply to Box No 3664

ARE U the man of my dreams? Me: attractive, caring, 35, n/s who loves foreign travel and sport WLTM a man who is tough yet tender, funny yet serious, who loves life and longs for lasting, loving commitment. Impossible? Prove me wrong. S.E. England. Please Reply to Box No 3718

ARE you attractive, fun loving, 40ish, based in London and interested in meeting your female counterpart? Good - then the rumours that you are extinct must be unfounded. Prove you are out there by writing to Box No 3904

ARTICULATE, petite, 40++ female looking for - not sure! But something with someone who likes arts not athletics, conversation not clubbing, humour not hassle, and who enjoys good friends, gentle times & beautiful places SW London. Please write with photo to Box No 3668

ARTIST. Attractive slim widow Green n/s many interests. London. Seeks sensitive stimulating solvent man 55-65 for cuddles/mutual support. Please Reply to Box No 3777

ATTRACTIVE, vibrant, intelligent, solvent, 46 yr old professional English woman returned to UK from living overseas. WLTM tall n/s 45-55 yr old gentleman who has experienced life in its many colours and has come through with a knowing/ awareness of himself and others. You will be kind, have a sense of mischief/laughter, be solvent, will have travelled and be willing to explore new places. Pleasures include: music, theatre, laughter, walking, being alive. You are not afraid to enter a new friendship/ relationship with honesty and integrity. I am Surrey based, but open to your location. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 3903

ATTRACTIVE professional woman (53) n/s, living and working in Geneva with possibility to retire and relocate, is looking for a warm, affectionate relationship. She enjoys good food + wine, travel, cinema and theatre. Is loyal and sincere. She is seeking a well-educated, cultured man, aged 50/60 with complementary interests and attributes. Photo app. Please Reply to Box No 4012

ATTRACTIVE, warm, well travelled, professional, Irish lady, GSOH, (40). London based, seeks interesting and fun-loving man to put the spring back in her step and the sparkle in her eye. Box No 3823

ATTRACTIVE, hard of hearing lady, 32, who has, through pressure of work, forgotten how to love and laugh, WLTM tall dark handsome successful WGSOH N/S gent (33-42) to bring that sparkle back to life. Loves dogs, dining, watersports & travelling overseas. U must also have a caring, honest personality & a zest for life. Reply with photo please to Box No 3871

ATTRACTIVE affluent Scandinavian lady, 40ish. Seeks tall professional man 40-60 with GSOH to share holidays and weekends with. Must love animals, nature, sports and a quiet life No clubbers or heavy drinkers. London based, Please Reply to Box No 3926

ATTRACTIVE, intelligent, single, effervescent lady - young 48, hardworking in a corporate world wants a seriously rich equivalent tall n/s man to enhance her life and lead her to romance with interests in travel, skiing, sailing, food and champagne. Reply with photo to Box No 3913

ATTRACTIVE professional lady - retiring - has much to offer to the right gentleman - 60ish - N/S who, above all, values comfort, relaxation and a shared enjoyment of a lovely home and garden. Interests may include golf, tennis, bridge, and some travel Box No 3707

ATTRACTIVE, fun loving lady early 50's self employed with GSOH - N/S enjoys good food & good wine - dining in/out WLTM businessman with similar interests - with a love of the outdoors. Photo appreciated if poss. A.R.A. - Cheshire, Yorks & Lancs area Box No 3891

ATTRACTIVE, slim, young 40's lady who wants more out of life than her job WLTM attractive, intelligent witty man 40-50 who enjoys travel, good food, good wine, good company and the 5 Nations Championship! Photo guarantees response London/S.East Box No 3906

ATTRACTIVE bubbly brunette independent professional WLT share walks talks theatre and more with kind humorous intelligent gentleman London /Essex border. No couch potatoes Reply to Box No 3945

ATTRACTIVE articulate Asian lady single n/s seeks that special man who will show her that life does begin at 40. Applications in writing please and recent photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 3970

ATTRACTIVE lady, with panache & style, would like to accompany gentleman on luxury cruise, who is probably wealthy, but lonely. Please Reply to Box no 3711

ATTRACTIVE creative prof woman with GSOH seeks man 45-60 who possesses similar qualities. Enjoys country theatre and travel. Photo app. London/S.E.Reply Box 3738

ATTRACTIVE London woman, 42, 5'7", likes cinema, opera, literature, German, travel seeks close relationship with n/s London based intellectual man under 50. Reply Box No 3781

ATTRACTIVE intelligent lady loves life, laughter and luxury WLTM sophisticated articulate ambitious devil for the best times ever! Photo ensures reply. Box No 3513

ATTRACTIVE and feisty Jewish brunette, 35, n/s, leggy and lissom, seeks charming professional gentleman (32-42). Please Reply to Box No 3861

ATTRACTIVE female seeks kind sensitive tall loving male 36-40 who enjoys the finer things in life Photo app. Distance no object. Reply to Box No 3966

ATTRACTIVE media exec 42 WLTM prof London man for dinner & conversation around cosy log fire. Box No 3948

ATTRACTIVE prof leggy blonde seeks tall intelligent man 30-45. Photo app.Reply Box No 4004

A very attractive affectionate female 40+ n/s solvent loves holidays in the sun walking theatre romantic candlit dinners seeks genuine caring male 46-56 with a view to marriage. Photo essential. London /S.E.Reply to Box No 3832

BATH - Charming 46 year old detached property, well maintained, many original features. Previous leasers unsatisfactory owner now seeking considerate long term tennant. Send Pic and CV to Box No 3910

BEAUTIFUL brunette tall slim 27 a Scarlett O'Hara looking for a tall attractive wealthy generous man with sincere caring nature and GSOH 29-43 a Rhett Butler who wants to find that special woman Let's make the sequel. Photo essential. Please Reply to Box No 3779

BLONDE, blue-eyed, slim! (F). 45 but looking younger. (London based). Make my 1995 a romantic one. Are you a 30/40 something, attractive, solvent male with GSOH who enjoys the good things in life? Go on pick up that pen, get your photo taken!Reply to Box No 3647

BLONDE blue eyed prof. 40 something needs 45-55 solvent stable saviour, pro/bus for sincere relationship. All normal things in life enjoyed. Photo please. Sth East. Box No 3759

BRIGHT attractive lady with young child WLTM caring prof man 33+ for lasting relationship. Berks/Bucks area. Please Reply with Photo Box No 3733

BORED with being independent. Slim, stylish town & country-lover, 32, seeks passionate, outgoing man to share the pleasures of life Photo app Please Reply to Box No 3928

BRIGHT, attractive lady late 30's, slim, happy and independent, seeks successful interesting gentleman with GSOH for permanent relationship. Golfer, own horses, enjoys country life, travel, arts. Photo app. London /Southwest.Reply Box No 3648

BRISTOL/BATH based. Attractive slim, fair-haired, fashion conscious lady seeks gentleman 56-63yrs. Varied interests incl. theatre, opera, dining and walking. Photo app Please Reply to Box No 3726

BRISTOL area. Redhead, vivacious widow 40's professional GSOH Restart urgent! Children understanding? Wining, dining, culture & fun. Please Reply to Box No 3960

BRYN TERFEL IEUAN EVANS fan seeks sociable successful man 50-60 to enjoy opera food fine wines and countryside. S.E. Wales. Reply Box No 3637

BUBBLY Caring lady WLTM true Blue Gent 58+ to share future full of fun & TLC Box No 3786

BUSINESSWOMAN, mid 40s, feminine not feminist, WLTM gentleman with GSOH to share travel, dining, theatre and log fires! London/Surrey/Hants. Photo app.Reply Box No 4086

CAMBRIDGE: Tall fair lady, 40s, successful profl, into simple life, offers caring, freedom & passion to like-minded male, late 40's,6ft+ Reply Box No 3655

CARIBBEAN Babe mid 20's exuberant personality, offer companionship to the millionaire who will spoil her in abundance.Reply Box No 3902

CATALYST req'd, with charisma and ability to revive dormant creative spirit. Attractive, sophisticated, intelligent, I am a young, slimmish, fit 49, 5'5" brunette, wishing to share mutual interests with financially well-established gentleman, no ties, able to support quality lifestyle with humour, wit, kindness and integrity. Distinguished looks, aged 46-54, 5'10"-6'2" possessing style and genuine interest in opera, theatre, architecture and design, a homelover who also enjoys travel, will excite my curiosity Residing S B'ham but wish to settle Stratford/Warks/ Worcs/N.Oxon/Cotswolds. Sincere. Informative replies only, please, enclosing recent photo to Box No 3884

CELTIC female, tall, elegant, over 40, likes simple pleasures/ luxuries, seeks affinity with adoring, self-supporting, child-orientated male counterpart, Photograph please.

CHESHIRE Lady - 45yrs, tall, professional, uncomplicated who has and enjoys the good things in life and needs a lot of love and has the same to give. Would like to meet tall gentleman with savoire faire to be my friend or partner but hopefully both! Reply to Box No 3919

CHOCOLATE ECLAIR independent self-sufficient fun-loving exterior conceals tender romantic traditional occasionally vulnerable centre 31 yr. Very pretty blonde loving professional lady, N/S GSOH. No ties. London/Yorks Seeks special someone. Well-educated good-looking successful VGSOH sensitive strong genuine humorous fit n/s 30-45 yr to share all good things always. He who dares... photo (returned) with serious reply Box No 3710

CLEOPATRA seeks Antony for middle-aged passion, poetry, wine, music, Nile cruise. Happy ending, no wife or Asp. Portrait please. London. Please Reply to Box No 3653

COMPANIONABLE Friendship for keeps, sought by slim, pretty academic, 34, loves Bach, books, movies, Formula 1, cricket and one small boy (4). Photo app. Scotland/South East Eng anywhere Box No 3942

COTSWOLDS Outgoing, cheerful lady requires man in early forties for company. Love Blues music, concerts, theatre and all sports. Reply to Box No 3863

COUNTRY Woman 26. Beautiful single curvy five-footer, prof. Qualified children and horses. Traditional values, warm capable intelligent kind GSOH. WLTM public school type willing help pamper demanding old West Country house, barns, car, horses and foal due April. Would relocate for irresistable alternative Box No 3775

CREATIVE pragmatist, 40's, based London/Wiltshire. classic interests: contemporary outlook, seeks decent chap to grow old gracefully with. Please Reply to Box No 3982

CREATIVE English graduate, 23, based S.E. seeks strong artistic male Write W. recent photo Reply to Box No 3912

CULTURED slim 40's, has been alone since 1989 when husband died after a fulfilling Jewish marriage with 2 children. A cinema-holic, my interests include bridge, the arts, travel and my family. Are you confident, but not brash, established but not staid, sensitive and empathetic but with a sense of humour and fun. Are we on the same wavelength? No gropers please London Reply to Box No 3743

CURVACEOUS petite dark-haired actress with style aged 50. Loves Puccini, Paris, Primroses and poultry fume. Seeks cosmopolitan charismatic and solvent man 50-62 London based.Reply to Box No 4070

DISCERNING attractive continental lady 58 WLTM sensitive refined professional man to enjoy urban life in London and possibly relationship. Photo Please Reply to Box No 4090

ELEGANT sophisticated sociable lady of 40 seeks gentleman between 50-60 used to the good things in life pref. Midlands based.Reply Box No 3869

ELEGANT lady, n/s, 56, blue eyes, slim, attractive, GSOH, V.interests, seeks prof. gentleman to share life Please Reply to Box No 3666

ENTHUSIASTIC newly-divorced size 12, soon to be 44, works hard but with lots of energy left for all sorts of activities, would like to give & receive TLC & share living life to the full. North London, Herts, Combs area.Reply to Box No 3659

ENTHUSIASTIC lively London lady 40's seeks discerning articulate healthy hedonistic male to share laughter fun & surplus energy.Box No 4025

EUROPEAN/MIDDLE EASTERN Successful man 50+, London based sought by dark petite English lady, late 40's, many interests Box No 4020

EXCEPTIONAL widow no ties of independent means mid 40's attractive glamorous stylish elegant tall slim & leggy. Warm, positive, cultured, sociable, well-travelled & lover of the good life. Ints. incl. classical music, opera, bridge, visual arts, outdoor activities, good food & wine. Seeks similarly warm, successful, cultured, bon-vivant Photo exch. & letter on headed stationary Box 3765

EXCLUSIVE Elegant lady 48 yrs wishes to fall in love only the healthy, wealthy & wise need apply SW1 Box No 3676

EXOTIC black graduate, 38, professional artist, exquisite, passionate & loyal would love to meet mature, generous wealthy gentleman for lasting relationship! All replies treated in strictest confidence Box No 3868

EXPATRIATE English woman, dark haired, feminine and youthful, irreverent SOH, div., Univ Ed., probably settling in York area (Undecided). Interest ranging from Mahler to Military History and Monty Python, would like to meet man (55-68) she can laugh with & share companionship and cuddles. Photo app. Box No 3713

FIVE foot two, eyes of blue, lady piano teacher, just 29. Loves theatre, music, British comedy, animals and England. Seeks professional gentleman, n/s, G/S/H and a BMW!! Photo please Box No 3889

FIVE foot two, eyes of blue, lady piano teacher, just 29. Loves theatre, music, British comedy, animals and England. Seeks professional gentleman, n/s, G/S/H and a BMW!! Photo please Box No 3889

FOXY lady hunting in Cotswolds requires well-bred hound to make up couple for Hunt Ball. Please Reply to Box No 3685

GEMINI lady 42 seeks equally very attractive well-dressed professional gentleman 40-50 for enviable fun lifestyle. Interests include stylish travel romantic wining/dinin, theatre, cars, animals, gardening. Detailed letter with photo please. A.L.A. Please Reply to Box No 3641

GENEVA based professional English lady 32 stylish attractive outgoing with an active lifestyle, good sense of humour, seeks like-minded professional gentleman 30-40. Photo appreciated. Reply to Box No 3967

GENUINE caring and attractive 42yrs lady. Interests include bridge, theatre and music WLTM solvent and interesting gentleman 40-50yrs to share all that life has to offer.Photo ensures reply.London /South-east. Box No 3946

GORGEOUS optimistic N.Z.woman graduate, 40's, widowed with small child, central London, WLT make friends with unattached quiet gentle prof man, scientist or similar, who enjoys reading cinema theatre music sports travel animals, walks in the park. Relaxed lifestyle. Please write enc. photo.Box No 3992

HAPPY friendly 52 lady wishes to meet gentleman who has a zeal for life by continually challenging himself. Photo Please Reply to Box No 3906

HAPPY eye-catching arts orientated n/s lady. London /country. WLTM charming cultured 50ish gentleman. Box 4064

HEADTURNING, independent & successful petite blonde (34) WLTM a handsome n/s & successful man. I have had the courage to seek, do you have the courage to reply? S.W. Please reply with photo. Please Reply to Box No 3885

HELP! 27yr old Irish solicitor marooned in Nottingham seeks suitable rescue. ALA. Please Reply to Box No 3696

I am tall, cultured, widowed in my 60's. Would like to meet gentleman similar. Pleasant looks, outgoing personality. Home west Midlands. Please Reply to Box No 3637

INTELLIGENT well-educated female 28 GSOH caring sensitive and cultured seeks professional man 30-40 with artistic leanings and a love of the outdoors. London/S.E. Please Reply to Box No 3883

JO is jaunty jovial slim attractive 40ish resides Suffolk. Loves country life and city pleasures. Seeks sensitive sensuous solvent honest male for fun and friendship Photo please. Reply to Box No 4096

KATHARINE ALLEN. "The highly respected marriage bureaux" (The Independent). 18 Thayer St. London W1M 5LD. Tel: 071-935 3116

LADY 57 attractive slim brunette hazel eyes who isn't convinced that personal ads work WLTM an attractive down to earth man with a GSOH who can put some sparkle back into my life and show that not all men shoud come with a Government Health Warning attached! Photo essential Kent/London area. Reply to Box No 4092

LADY to love and be loved again. Early 40's well travelled enjoys all the good things in life. Kent based Reply to Box No 4015

LIFE is for living agree? Then read on. Tall, slim, n/s Ind. widow 58, professional in London would like to meet unatt. N/S man 56-65 who enjoys life, inc. good food & wine, sport, arts, travel & conversation. For friendship initially & then lets see! Please Reply to Box No 3930

LIVELY well-travelled lady early 50's WLTM someone with GSOH. Ints incl. antiques, country theatre & people. London or Surrey pref. Please Reply to Box No 3989

LONDON - French late forties - widow seeks gentleman 40/60 initially as social partner. Please Reply to Box No 3881

LONELY in London - attractive, slim 5'6", 40's, naturally happy Aquarian waiting for the dawning of her new age. Are you same age group, around 6', a lean mellowing hunk, maybe a touch rugged, outgoing and good to talk to? Could you be my guiding star? Photo appreciated & returned. Box No 3887

MAYBE you are the gentleman between 50-65 who can make me say MAGIC & can complete my jigsaw life. Photo please. London/S.E.Box No 3851

MEET attractive, sexy women at London singles' parties. MEET 'N' EAT 071 629 5534

MERRY WIDOW, jolly good cook, lives near Oxford. WLTM bridge-music-boat-loving man. PPL, age 60+.Box No 3968

MY DAUGHTER, like Anne Cook (see recent article in Weekend Section) is same age, 35, and an attractive successful independent business woman too She would give her right arm to meet a Stephan Clark type ideally around M25 and South. If she knew I have become a "Go between" she would half murder me (only half) Reply Box No 3686

NORTH-EAST based. Attractive petite Doctor 37. Articulate cultured and well-travelled. Standard GSOH Many interests include theatre fine dining cinema and the outdoors. WLTM successful professional gentleman 35-47 who is slim intelligent civilised and thoughtful for a lasting relationship. Photo please.Box No 3981

OPERA, music, food, wine lover sought by attractive professional lady recently finding herself single again. Must be 40/55, solvent, home owner (like me) and looking for that special partner and best friend. Home counties.Reply to Box No 3804

PREFER rugby to badminton, range rovers to robins, look like Sean Bean nor Mr. Bean? Lonely mother of 2 (38) S. Kent n/s seeks fun and friendship. Please Reply to Box No 3646

PRETTY Australian woman of Anglo-Celtic extraction, stranded in Antipodes, seeks rescue England is calling. I am rubinesque, 5'6", have large blue eyes, pale skin, dark hair, am university educated. I am honest, passionate and kind. I am 29, never married and seek wholesome man, 30's/40's, for marriage and to start a family. I am independent and fiercely loyal and seek one who's loving, monogamous and trusting. I enjoy tennis, walking in the country, literature, Irish mythology If you think we have common ground let's Correspond. Address to: Antipodean P.O Box 283, Elsternwick Victoria 3185 Australia.

PRETTY, blonde, slim, modern, articulate, widely travelled, well read, prof lady (60) living in Hampshir . Solvent with own property, car etc. Two sons, both at University. Interested in meeting tall, happy, prof. man of similar age to make life bright and exciting again. Photo please.Reply Box No 3972

PRIVATE HOUSE PARTY. Attractive, bright & lively. Pub Sch career girls. 30's. If you are late 30's/early 40's. Pub Sch, prof urban career, have all your hair and an engaging personality do call Patricia on 081 392 9009 after 7pm & wkends

PROFESSIONAL 50yr old lady in Devon with happy personality enjoys theatre dining and gardening would like to share her time with like-minded gentleman.Reply Box No 4006

RATHER fabulous female, strikingly attractive slim bright vulnerable openly admits seeking intelligent warm solvent honest unattached tall male 45-66 to share sense of fun, lazy Sunday lunches & host of interests - for ever. Let's cons. siding at Easter. Photo appr. Please Reply to Box No 3661

ROMANTIC attractive professional woman many interests especially music and travel WLTM a man 50-65 for serious friendship London/home counties. Please Reply to Box No 3943

ROUNDED, intelligent lady early 50's living in East Anglia seeking company of gentleman in whose company I can feel comfortable. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 3918

SENSATIONAL, sexy, silky smooth, spirited, strong-minded, sincere, successful, deliciously tall, dusky damsel, 30, seeks soulmate London area. Please Reply to Box No 3860

SENSITIVE warm attractive slim and solvent continental divorced 40's lady well-travelled and cultured seeks very caring kind and successful 46+ gentleman who has integrity GSOH and intelligence to enjoy interesting life together Midlands based.Reply Box No 4080

SECURE woman, 28, good fun with sharp mind, experienced but exasperated that high-profile work draws men attracted by my looks and abilities, who think I'm joking when I say I want a straightforward future with children and animals. WLTM solid, easygoing, bright man, 35-45. Don't give a damn what you do as long as you enjoy it, are purposeful, quick-witted, energetic and a bone fide grown-up Neither lonely nor in a hurry, but watched too many friends consumed by work and related love affairs. Send me a note and photo maybe we can have a drink in London.Box No 3962

SLIM attractive 5'3" Irish Cailin (?) seeks gent 48-68 with GSOH. No very handsome millionaire Saturday Rendezvous advertisers need reply London/home counties. Please Reply to Box No 3746

SLIM attractive prof 48 year old Lady with varied interests wtm Gentlemen for loving caring relationship, photo appreciated. North East/ anywhere Please Reply to Box No 3684

SOPHISTICATED lady, 60+, seeks under 70 laughing cavalier. Top notch chaps only. I've loved & lost the best! Surrey /Hants.Box No 3916

SPORT loving tall lady WLTM tall educated gentleman 60ish to enjoy world travel classical music bridge and build a happy relationship. Home counties. Photo app.Reply Box No 3810

SPORTY & very attractive brunette, 30's, n/s, prof. 5'8". WLTM some REAL men i.e strong & successful. Please Reply to Box No 3755

SPRING CHICKEN (in looks if not in age - born 1950), continental brunette, individualistic, relaxed, design /technology /property orientated entrepreneur living in NW London would like to meet Golden Egg(head) under 56, pref. blue/green eyed, ex-pub. sch. definitely interesting & honest Reply to Box No 3908

3 stunning girls, 30ish with wit, intelligence and good jobs seek dashingly handsome charmers with same. London/S.E. Please Reply to Box No 4084

SUCCESSFUL, attractive and elegant blonde, 30's V. slim but curvaceous 5'5", has forgotten until now that there's more to life than success in business. Loves the good things in life - wine, culture, travel, sports esp. skiing. GSOH and can't resist a challenge Are you equally successful, confident, strong-minded, decisive, good-looking, cultured, well travelled, and enjoy varied interests. Are you tall, slim, fit, articulate and also love a challenge? I work in advertising and this is the 1st time I've advertised myself - have I been succesful in persuading you? London based - Happy to travel. Photo and letter please. All replies answered. Box No 3874

"SYMPATHIQUE" sincere tall prof. young 50 WLTM that special caring gentleman to share and cherish all the niceties that togetherness can bring. Home counties/ London. Please Reply to Box No.3954

TALL attractive country loving widow, 56, happy, caring, personality. Many interests. Seeks sincere gentleman to enjoy life's pleasure & quiet times with Wilts/Glos/S.W. Please Reply to Box No 3911

TALL brunette attractive 40's loves life, lots of T.L.C. to give WLTM cultured tall sincere gent. Where are you? Based London.Reply to Box No 3745

TALL professional n/s male 34 enjoys walking talking sport and country pubs WLTM female attractive passionate sensual intelligent 20-40 for good times and laughter. Photo please.Midlands.Box No 4019

THINKING man's crumpet. Somerset, seeks her thinking man. Brunette, warm, life-loving, 45. Varied professional & leisure interests, compassionate. successful, cosmopolitan, self-centred. Is outward success incompatible with a rich inner life? Prove me wrong. Photo please. Box No 3831

UNPRETENTIOUS, fairly vocal widow late 50's Essex. Seeks similarly disposed occasional male companion. Please Reply to Box No 3642

VERY attractive quirky young at heart mid 40's woman with lovely 13yr old son. WLTM creative warm loving man in similar situation, who is like me financially independent. I am thoughtful, have spiritual leanings, settled but adventurous. Ints incl. the arts, cinema, books, swimming, dancing and yoga. London based. Please send recent photo and letter to Box No 3820

VERY attractive slim feminine brunette, 31. Successful career. London based. Vivacious, fun-loving, enjoys living life to the full incl. skiing, water and adventure sports, champagne, parties, friends - still something is missing, is it you? If you are dynamic, confident, successful and well-balanced please write to me at Box No 3971

VERY pretty 40 something seeks man with oomph! To write chapter two of her life. (Surrey or within easy-reach). Photo please. Reply to Box No 3964

VINTAGE wine for lady of non-vintage years. Is there a strong, dependable vintage wine (50+) stored out there somewhere? If so, come out of the cellar and join me for future tastings fo what life could hold! London /S.E.Reply to Box No 3773

VIVACIOUS, attractive, intelligent, stylish lady, 31, seeks sincere, amusing, fun-loving, professional gentleman, 30-40, to show her there is more to life than work. Enjoys theatre, music, travel, good food & wine. Photo appreciated. London reply. Box No 3924

VIVACIOUS relocated graduate babe 23! WLTM intelligent fun-loving 5'9"+ (24-30) male for friendship? Photo app. Surrey /Berks.Reply to Box No 4081

WARM womanly professional. Living in rural Clwyd WLTM 40ish professional male who is fun caring and won't moan at her for smoking! Please Reply to Box No 3728

WEST LONDON woman, 53, N/S, professional, intelligent and warm personality W.L.T.M. a man with similar attributes. Good humour goes without saying. Box No 3900

WIDOW 50 n/s living in S.E. enjoys wining and dining, theatre, music, country walks needs a new perfect gentle knight Could this be you? Please Reply to Box No 3892

WOMAN (warm, attractive, intelligent, over-educated, professional, divorced, 45, with two student offspring and wide interests, including blues, rock, classical music, sport, thrillers & the outdoors) seeks man (decision-maker, light-hearted, over 38, eager to share his own enthusiasms with fun and friendship) to explore possibilities in London Letter, phone no, & photo, please, to Box No 3926

YOUNG 60yr old lady 5'10" WLTM a sincere gentleman to share life with. S.E. London. Photo would be nice. Please Reply to Box No 3717

YOUNG fit attractive 27yr old girl seeks tennis partner pref. London based. If you are 28-35, single with a GSOH & enjoy having fun.Reply Box No 4091

ZOOM up the M1 to Mids /Leics.Happy petite fair solvent woman seeks warm honest slim, 50+ man to share forever! Phone no please. Box 3974

GENTLEMEN

AGREEABLY Different Essex man! Widower mid fifties 5'11" caring reliable successful businessman well spoken, varied interests, good lifestyle n/s. WLTM stylish slim lady with similar attributes Photo, letter and phone number ensures immediate reply to exchange further details Box No 3739

ARCHITECT 36 years old, of mixed race, originally from the Bahamas, handsome, 6'2, slender, sophisticated with a warm personality, very health conscious, has home in Florida and London Relocating to Florida the end of 95 Seeks a very attractive professional female with warm personality and health conscious who likes the tropical climate for a serious relationship Please send recent photo Thankyou Box No 4095

ARTISTIC smart health professional 28, 6'9", seeks lady in 20's for romance Photo app. London based.Box No 3807

A SPRING filled with fun and romance - awaits an intelligent, feminine, honest, lady with this successful London based Director 6' tall, n/s now turned 50 who is a true romantic Please Reply to Box No 3705

A Sussex fine art dealer (Roger Moore look-alike) 59, slim, tall, dark and handsome. Well educated (Grammar school /U.C.L.) and well read, spoken, mannered and dressed. A cultured man with many interests but not stuffy or opinionated. Quite the opposite. A sensitive, warm hearted person with a marvellous outgoing personality. A conversationalist and raconteur with a sparkling wit. Non-smoker. Own business in Brighton area Financially sound. Lovely Sussex cottage. New car. Seeks professional lady counterpart. C. 40-50. with view to an everlasting relationship. Details please with recent photo & tel. no. Mine on request.Reply to Box No 3682

A tall, dark, handsome, successful Englishman 40's sporty, fit, healthy loves mountains, sea and being in the clouds! WLTM 29/35 attractive, sophisticated, slim, sporty, well-bred, fun loving girl who wants to live life to the full. Lndn/SE. Photo/letter essential. Reply to Box No 4022

ATTRACTIVE, stylish professional (33) part-time father to son aged 6. Well-travelled, well-educated, living/working Aberdeen. Seeks chic and pretty, single "Marie Claire" girl 25-35 to rediscover a quality life with, n/s preferred Please Reply to Box No 3692

ATTRACTIVE, tall, dark, affluent Man. Dir., just 50, recently out of relationship - Loves sport, travel, sea & sun and all the good things in life, would like to hear from any attractive interesting women. Photo essential.Box No 3923

ATTRACTIVE, affluent, Leftish, R.C.A. graduate seeks 30's female for painting trips. France.Reply to Box No 4009

A V.successful businessman, no ties, early fifties, smart, personable, O.K looking GSOH, n/s, now with time to enjoy life WLTM slim attractive 30's - 40's lady for laughter, travel, fun and who knows. First ad - has taken courage - pluck up yours, lets exchange photos phone numbers. Box No 3811

A 40yr old n/s alcoholic carnivore seeks E. Midlands cell-mate rather than curol ALA.Reply to Box No 3695

BE MINE this Spring. I am 6'2" professional, good looking will pass for 45. If you expect TOTAL care are 45-53 petite or trim n/s also enjoy country house antiques bridge and candle lit dinners do meet this unashamed romantic Capricorn in Yorkshire or Amersham Bucks.What's your sign? Photo app.Please Reply Box No 3722

BUSY professional. Tall, slim, presentable male 42 Now looking Seeks similar happy 35+ lady with level head, subtle style and conversation. London. Please Reply to Box No 3668

CARING male 47, dark, ex prof. now postgrad, pay, student, seeks similar n/s sincere, elegant brunette 33-45, Wales. Photo app. Box No 3898

CENTRAL Scotland. Tall, single, good-looking, professional 46 year old Scot - just returned after long exile - seeks intelligent attractive younger lady for lasting relationship, please reply with photo to Box No 3934

DARE to care again. Mid 40's man London/Thames Valley based craves once again intimacy, warmth and passion of caring, loving relationship Points of contact embrace theatre, good food and better wine. Italy & France: stimulating conversation & reasonable politics: country house hotels; & long lazy Sunday mornings. I want high standards, warmth, passion, & the innocence to care again. I'm happily solvent, company director, tolerantly public school, and an active father of 2 teenagers. Time has come to rejoin real world. Photograph & bespoke lettrer ensure reply and hopefully dinner. Please Reply to Box No 3654

GENTLEMEN

DONCASTER or 30 miles radius - to complete and perfect the life of a 45 year old tall special financier. Wanted: slim very special lady around 35 Chilren no problem initially for romance if suited?? Please Reply to Box No 3644

DREAMER - London based gentleman, 56, good looking, fit, wearing well, 5'7", zest for life, many interests. Looking for slim elegant, elusive lady 50-60, any area. At home in high heels of green wellies. Why not make my dream come true Box 3917

DUTCHMAN, 34, 6ft 2in dark hr, fin.controller, MBA, good looks, caring, sincere, fun-loving S E. seeks English/contin., charming, slim, attractive professional lady, 24-40 to give each other lasting love. Photo much apprec Box No 4003

ECLECTIC Piscean (single dad) seeks tall, slim lady, late 20's, n/s, self-assured, adaptable, to share caring moments, elegant home. Interest in arts. Please Reply to Box No 3994

ENGLISH gentleman (49) wishes to meet American lady with a view to romance Photo please. Please Reply to Box No 3663

FRENCH BUSINESSMAN 36, very attractive, successful, romantic, sincere, passionate, challenging, stylish, skiing, travel, food Seeks genuine feminine, curvaceous, attractive, executive/business lady 30-45 for exciting passionate romance.Photo essential London/country.Box No 3150

GENTLEMAN bachelor good-looking 49yrs old 6ft tall broad shouldered well-spoken educated & unattached Nice Surrey house with grounds. Enjoys country-side cars antique fairs cooking shopping home-life & have varied interests. Have tons of TLC. My downfall was the Las mani Seeks affluent lady similar age or older for permanent companionship/relationship ALA. Reply to Box No 4088

GENTLEMAN of means, integrity and maturity seeks lady of youth, beauty and gaiety. Offers stylish home and cultured lifestyle. Needs inspiration and love. Box No 3958

GOOD LOOKING, slim, 5'10", young looking, businessman, widower Plenty of assets but no special lady to indulge So he seeks an attractive lady 45 55yrs with good looks, good legs, good company to share a good life together, photo essential. Box No 3858

GOOD looking man, 41, graduate, music lover, various cultural interests, seeks attractive, sensitive woman for warmth, tenderness and a long relationship. London Area Reply to Box No 3824

GOOD-LOOKING fit man 46 seeks attractive n/s intelligent sophisticated lady into Janet Reger & flirtations! London Photo and reply please to Box No 4001

GOOD-LOOKING man 27 intelligent 5'10" Meditation teacher seeks beautiful woman 25-45. London.Reply to Box No 3689

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HANDSOME, strong, man of action, 39. Successful professional career. Varied interests, kind, humorous Seeks warm hearted, intelligent female to share life's adventures. Home Counties based. Photo please. Box No 3880

HANDSOME Professional 39yr old, well travelled, interesting and caring, many varied interests seeks bright and interesting partner to open up new horizons. Midlands based, photo if poss. Reply to Box No 3681

HANDSOME male seeks ex-private school female or member of the aristocracy, for good times, looks and age unimportant. I am 33 years of age. Please Reply to Box No 3601

IF you are lively, attractive, female 21-33, a blonde blue-eyed man, 28, with GSOH would like to meet you central London Box No 3826

I wish to meet you! - If you have a fantastic sense of humour and enjoy life, I am 36, 5ft 11 inches, green-eyed and slim. Also well-travelled- wishing to meet someone similar for friendship and perhaps a little bit more! Please Reply to Box No 3639

JE ne sai quoi, 6'4", 32, lean, post-grad, n/s, warm, attractive, optimistic professional man. Enjoys: excercise, outdoor life, travel, arts, laughing, discourse, Sunday mornings, Autumnal apples, kisses in the rain. Seeking, slim, sensual single, intelligent independent woman with that certain something! Photo appreciated, all letters answered. Derby area Please Reply to Box No 3893

LONDON based successful affluent Company Director Age 49. Attractive, slim, n/s, with a very good sense of humour and is happiest when looking after a lady Loves to wine, dine, travel and on the whole leads a good life, but needs someone special to be affectionate, romantic and loving with Would like to meet a similar, independent successful lady (35-45) to pursue and enjoy the good things in life together. Please tell me about yourself with photo and 'phone no. Reply Box No 3839

MALE, fit, slim, very presentable, genuine, honourable, professional, very secure Seeks true, permanent live-in girlfriend. (Alternatively perhaps live in both homes). Someone free seeking marriage 30-47yrs. Hopefully very very trim, noticeably very curvaceous. Genuine, caring, meaningful, on-going loving, positive relationship, Established south of London. Please Reply to Box No 3409

ME, 41, 5'11", goodlooking, well travelled, solvent - own dream home Loyal, sincere and honest - No ties. You, live N.Lincs/H'side, enjoy going out, 30-45, attractive, outgoing, caring, loving & wanting long term r'ship. Box No 3894

MG requires female passenger, 25-30ish, for owner, 1966 vintage, garaged in London, good runner, low mileage, reliable, but needing on going TLC Photo and offers to Box No 3825

NON-MILLIONAIRE but good-fun, easy-going 30 year old guy. Reasonably attractive & fit with everything in the right place at the last count. Seeks good-looking, straightforward 25-30 year old female with sense of humour to share good times. Someone reading this is my perfect companion Take the plunge and write with a recent photo. Mine in return Wilts/M4 corridor Please Reply to Box No 3666

NORTH Leics gentleman 48 children now grown up intelligent semi professional N/s good talker. Avg. height & shape travel, garden, country. Seeks interesting lady to share life Please Reply to Box No 3708

PROFESSIONAL well travelled, 40, Egyptian, UK resident, seeks attractive, slim, lady, 25-40, for romance and LTR.

PROFESSIONAL man offers loving, lasting exciting and magical relationship to an attractive and sensuous lady ideally under 40 who would also appreciate his C. London home and his unique profession.Reply Box No 3857

ROBIN HOOD (40, handsome) seeks Maid Marion (33-45, attractive). Sheriff's secret admirers also welcome! South.Reply to Box No 4007

S.O.S. (Solitary of Somerset), 60, personable, youthful, educated, fit, slim, active, sensitive and caring, GSOH/ N/S, seeks similar, warm, attractive lady to share concerts, theatre, arts, sport, walking, travelling, lively conversation and, of course, LLL! Photo appreciated Please Reply to Box No 3901

SAILOR - Leaves mid Summer in own yacht for leisurely World Cruise (2-3 yrs) Seeks F. companion for longer relationship? Me. 40, blond, bearded, bald, educated, open, romantic & tough enough for life You 30 45 and similar.Box No 4024

SINGLE, professional, attractive caring male, 32, fit and sporty. Very solvent; enjoys skiing, walking, and countryside Seeks attractive, affectionate, n/s single female, 21-30 for lasting relationship. South East Photo please Box No 3879

SOLVENT Lawyer sporty GSOH 38 seeks lively 38 slim younger lady Dorset Photo appreciated Please Reply to Box No 3875

SOMEWHERE hopefully there is a delightful, good-looking, vivacious, n/s lady with a lovely smile who is active and enjoys life to the full. GSOH, a little sophistication touched with elegance, style and panache with the right chemistry will bring back that real sparkle and a new meaning into a lasting relationship, full of affection and TLC, encompassing romance, music, theatre, dancing, countryside walking, travel etc bridge and golf, with a presentable n/s active, retired Cheshire executive widower with no ties. Very young-looking mid 60's, slim build, 5'8", who would appreciate a genuine reply with a recent photo from that lovely lady.Please Reply Box No 4008

SOMEWHERE out there must be the lady I WLTM I am a S W. London widower, young 72, active, capable of great affection and TLC Wide interests but not bridge or golf You must be late 50's/ early 60's, n/s, nice looking, open to marriage and accessible Photo essential.Reply to Box No 3969

STUNNING, stylish, exclusive, refined, high performance, open, 2-seater sports car requires an elite lady passenger with same qualities to explore the countryside in the spring and beyond. Should be warm, elegant, balanced, demonstrative, fun, up to 40yrs to share a close relationship, exciting weekends and holidays, based on mutual respect and love. Driver a gentle, sensitive, charming, single, sincere, Medical Consultant. Detailed CV and photo (if poss.).Box No 4094

TALL attractive professional man youthful 60, sincere but lonely seeks very large lady any age for companionship in London area. Box No 3914

TALL cheerful professional, Paul, 40, seeks n/s interesting lady 25-45 London. Please Reply to Box No 3640

TALL, slim, well-educated, single, professional man, 43, child friendly, with penchant for tennis, theatre and countryside, seeks comparable lady with GSOH to be best friend and lover N/S. Northwest. Photo appreciated. Box No 3864

TALL slim blonde attractive prof. caring male, mid 30's, WLTM attractive lady (28-35) with GSOH to share country walks, theatre, cinema, for lasting relationship. London/S.E. Photo apprec. Reply Box No 3667

TYPICAL Taurean; tall, solvent designer, P.L.C Director, 37, Clapham/Chelsea based. Energetic optimist. Into opera, golf, cricket, work, occasional mindless bopping. Getting broody, seeking partner You are probably petite, probably shy, probably pretty, feisty underneath it all.A great life guaranteed.Plse reply with photo. Box No 3996

WARM & caring man, mid 60's, tall, professional (project auditing). Unattached & financially independent, would like to meet lady in similar position, kind & contented, for friendship, companionship, perhaps more. London & beyond.Box No 3651

WRITE to us. Tall fit educated professional 30's relocating to London one originally from the Levant the other India WLTM 2 lovely ladies. Box No 4021

YOU have Style, Intelligence, Elegance & Sensuality and are equally at home at the opera or in wellies. Professional man based London & Devon, aged 46, tall etc seeks absolutely superb lady to share London evenings, glorious countryside, travel & life. Photo please. Reply to Box No 3899

CREATIVE professional man, conventional on the surface but deep underneath, seeks woman soulmate to share life and laughs with mid 30's tall & self-aware interests include sport, music, travel and the outdoors Reply to Box No 3119

DESIGNER 48, solvent, only tie his cat. Many varied interests including film, theatre, music, scuba and travel. Waiting to meet n/s female with a sense of fun and adventure for jolly good time! Box No 3259

ENGLISHMAN, house in S W. France, flat in S.W London, seeks n/s, educated, fit, French speaking English woman, 50-65, to play tennis, ski downhill, & enjoy opera, gardening, food & wine. Non-working ex-wife preferred.Reply to Box No 3085

ENGLISH Gentleman living South of France, young 60's, seeks lady to share life in sun and varied interests. Please Reply to Box No 3171

ESTABLISHED but not wealthy genuine young 60's Widower seeks slim "power dresser" classy society type with no ties lady 46+, not averse to little smoking with view to marriage in average lifestyle. London preferred, but not essential. Letter with photo please.Box No 3238

EVERYTHING I want except you - if around 35, slim, sensuous, eyecatching and ready for a memorable and possibly permanent relationship please send detailed letter & recent photo which will be returned by a 45 year old single company director living one hour from Lincoln Reply to Box No 2751

FIT, slim, country loving chap, 68, with super farmhouse, Kent hop gardens, needing slim, dishy lady, late 50's to spoil & cherish, perhaps medical or arts. Photograph will help, promise return, n/s please Box No 3177

FRENCH man, 31, single, 1m74, non-smoker, seeks nice & kind girl (18-30) in London for correspond. great friendship, mutual visits and maybe permanent relationship. I want to improve my English Hobbies: Travels, music, humour, languages, exhibitions, stamps + England Write to: Francois Rosicki, 85 Rue de Reuilly, 75012 Paris. France.

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

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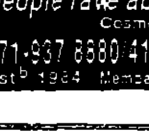
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Entertaining Kempton card to provide valuable Festival pointers

One Man faces exacting Gold Cup trial

By Julian Muscat



HUGH ROUTLEDGE

The Frog Prince sails over the last fence on his way to a comfortable victory in the Famous Grouse Novices' Chase at Kempton yesterday

SERIOUS form students will be out in force today at Kempton, where the Racing Post Chase is the fulcrum of a card liberally sprinkled with horses bound for the Cheltenham Festival.

Viking Flagship, a fencing casualty on his last start at Newbury, embarks on a confidence-boosting exercise against three opponents in the Emblem Chase. The Queen Mother Champion Chase winner should come through unscathed, although his efforts will serve only to whet the appetite.

The feature event has again attracted a fascinating blend of young chasers and those ripened by the passage of time. One Man, trained by Gordon Richards, represents hope over experience. The seven-year-old has already cornered most of the money and is now a clear favourite at 6-4. However, it will require an act of considerable faith for his supporters to wade in at those odds.

Tempting as it is to recall One Man's demolition job on the Hennessy Gold Cup, the Richards stable's abject recent record stands out like a beacon in thenight. Richards's losing sequence, stretching back 39 days, was broken only yesterday by Extra Special in a race for hunters.

If the early betting exchanges can be believed, One Man's principal opponent will be Zeta's Lad, who, at the age of 12, most definitely represents experience over hope. Indeed, he landed this prize two years ago when on a victory roll. Zeta's Lad is well handicapped on his best form, although his recent defeat of Royal Athlete — another 12-year-old, and reportedly short of work — does not make for compelling reading.

Ranged between the ages of One Man and Zeta's Lad is Val D'Alene, the nine-year-old challenger from François Doumen's Chantilly stable. In company with his stable companion, Algan, Val D'Alene's journey was delayed for six hours at the hands of striking dockers at Calais. Their subsequent passage in stormy seas exacerbated the demands of travelling, yet Val D'Alene's scintillating performance, on his British debut at Lingfield, only hinted at the extent of his powers.

Algan was a fortuitous winner of the King George VI Chase in December. Of more significance has been Doumen's suggestion that Algan will be better for the outing. Twelve months ago, Doumen said the same of The Fellow, who prefaced his Cheltenham Gold Cup victory by running third here.

Thus far, Algan's Cheltenham preparation has mirrored that of The Fellow: Doumen will surely be expecting a bolder effort from Val D'Alene today.

Prudence alone dictates a watching brief with Antonin, while the faint-hearted will not care to back Whispering Steel. Unlike his raw ability, Whispering Steel's jumping prowess leaves much to be desired.

Events at the Sunbury venue yesterday were dominated by the shock defeat of Double Silk, long heralded as the top hunter on these shores. That accolade is now in dispute, for there was no fluke about his humbling at the hands of Cool Relation.

Reg Wilkins, who trains Double Silk, blamed the setback on the lack of competition faced by the gelding in his two victories this season. However, Double Silk's outing in heavy ground at Warwick three days earlier may have been equally culpable.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: SUPERIOR FINISH
(2.30 Haydock Park)

Next best: *Present Situation*
(3.25 Lingfield Park)

Superior Finish to strengthen National claims

HAYDOCK PARK
BBC1

1.00: Nordic Crown's confidence will be high after two victories in claiming company. He has more to do here, however, and **Inculcate** is preferred. Having taken on the likes of Anzum and Balanak, he meets nothing of that calibre here. Twin Falls has prospects in a race where stamina will count. In his favour is that he stays further than this two miles.

1.30: Sweet Duke should never be opposed when the mud is flying. Nigel Twiston-Davies's novice has made a successful transition to fences and has little to fear from Valiant Warrior or Barley Black.

2.00: Attadale failed to threaten the leaders at Newcastle last week. Testing ground does not trouble him but he gained all three of last term's victories over distances beyond this trip. He is worth opposing here. Lemon's Mill and With Impunity, both front-runners, could set this up for **Ivy House**. A much-improved hurdler, Ivy House shaped promisingly after a two-month absence at Wetherby three weeks ago.

Court Master has plenty going for him but remains a maiden after three seasons. Plastic Spaceage can be entertained but Sansool is not one to trust implicitly.

2.30: Superior Finish stands out in this significant Grand National trial. A sound jumper, the nine-year-old acts in the mud and should come into his own over this longer trip. Jenny Pitman's horse was found wanting when the pace quickened over three miles last time, but rallied with rare purpose to chase home Deep Bramble at Sandown. Earth Summit, pulled up in that race, will provide much stiffer opposition at this venue. He poses more of a threat than Party Politics, whom I thought a shade disappointing in the Welsh National. Nuaffe has placed form at this trip. A fine third to Jodami in Ireland last time, he looks the biggest danger.

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

KEMPTON PARK
C4

3.00: Kadi will be a popular fancy after his recent Sandown stroll, where his superiority was vastly understated by the winning distance. He has taken well to fences but is worth opposing on his earlier efforts. For instance, Kadi finished 12 lengths behind the Josh Gifford-trained Brief Gale here in December.

However, with Gifford's string out of form, I expect a bold showing from **Montebel**. He jumps particularly well for a novice and is open to improvement. Dancing Paddy has found it hard to complete, having failed twice in three starts over fences. He has the ability to defy his 7lb penalty but his jumping does not inspire confidence. Tug Of Peace, a recent Irish import, is best watched on this occasion.

3.35: It is not difficult to sympathise with the connections of Balanak, who have declined an encounter with **Silver Wedge**. Greenback, though unproven on heavy ground, is the one most likely to upset the unbeaten Triumph Hurdle favourite.

4.10: See above.

4.40: Bog Frog and Allegan carry automatic top weight for their lack of a handicap rating. Bog Frog will be less inconvenienced, although he raced much too keenly when fourth at Ascot in December. He is capable of better but crosses swords with a formidable opponent in Martin Pipe's **Cyborgo**.

This young stayer has yet to be headed in three outings this term, and he should advertise his Cheltenham claims. This is more Top Spin's trip and he could cause Cyborgo most problems off his low weight.

JULIAN MUSCAT

KEMPTON PARK

THUNDERER

1.55 Taos
2.25 Viking Flagship
3.00 Kadi
3.35 Silver Wedge
4.10 ONE MAN (nap)
4.40 Cyborgo
5.10 Oban

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 .... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell, P — pulled up, U — unseated rider, B — brought down, S — slipped up, R — refused, D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers, V — visor, H — hood, E — Eyeshield. C — course winner, D — distance winner, CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: HEAVY — SIS

1.55 DOVECOTE NOVICES HURDLE (Grade II: £8,438: 2m) (9 runners)

101	1132P1	CHEF'S SONG 42 (D,G) (Mrs A Dewe) S Dow 5-11-10	J Osborne	97
102	U43-4U1	SUPREME MASTER 17 (D,S) (T Johnsey) Miss C Johnsey 5-11-7	A P McCoy	87
103	10-2	EDMANS FLUTTER 8 (S) (R Wright) D Elsworth 7-11-3	P Holley	88
104	132	SILVER GROOM 42 (D,BF,S) (Silver Darling Pbrs) R Akehurst 5-11-3	R Dunwoody	97
105	0-	SPEAKER'S HOUSE 249F (M Addis) N Henderson 6-11-3	M A Fitzgerald	—
106	610	STOREY VALLEY 28 (S) (Ellis & Partners Ltd) J Jenkins 5-11-3	N Williamson	79
107	51	TAOS 9 (D,S) (N Twiston-Davies) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-3	T Jenks	99
108	11	BALANAK 38 (D,S) (W Dore) D Gandolfo 4-10-11	A Maguire	98
109	05	LE KHOUMF 70 (BF) (D Lewis) R Simpson 4-10-7	Richard Guest	—

BETTING: 5-2 Chef's Song, 11-4 Taos, 7-2 Silver Groom, 9-2 Balanak, 8-1 Supreme Master, 10-1 others.

1994: JAZILAH 6-11-3 E McCourt (5-2) R Akehurst 10 ran

2.25 EMBLEM CHASE (£6,840: 2m) (4 runners)

201	12-115F	VIKING FLAGSHIP 14 (D,BF,F,G,S) (Roach Foods Ltd) D Nicholson 8-12-0	A Maguire	99
202	2U1131	BOLD CHOICE 8 (D,F,G,S) (J Joseph) R Frost 9-11-0	J Frost	62
203	3Z9122	SPREE CROSS 35 (D,BF,G,S) (P Mason) Mrs D Haine 9-11-0	G Bradley	83
204	32-3P14	THUMBS UP 21 (D,BF,F,S) (M Buckley) N Henderson 9-11-0	M A Fitzgerald	86

BETTING: 1-2 Viking Flagship, 7-2 Thumbs Up, 5-1 Spree Cross, 14-1 Bold Choice

1994: REMITTANCE MAN 10-12-0 R Dunwoody (5-2) N Henderson 4 ran

3.00 WEEKLY JOURNAL PENDIL NOVICES CHASE — C4
(Grade II: £11,129: 2m 4f 110yd) (7 runners)

301	3-5041F	DANCING PADDY 7 (BF,G,S) K Cunningham-Brown 7-11-10	N Williamson	99
302	233211	KADI 8 (D,G,S) (J Brown) D Nicholson 6-11-5	A Maguire	87
303	1/6-1F1	MONTEBEL 49 (D,F,G,S) (M Arnold) N Twiston-Davies 7-11-3	T Jenks	77
304	66/02-F3	PENNINE PASS 7 (P Moore) D Williams 6-11-3	P Holley	—
305	3213F0	TUG OF PEACE 8 (G,S) (P Richardson) G Balding 8-11-3	A P McCoy	71
306	2135-25	BRIEF GALE 17 (G,S) (Miss C Zetter) J Gifford 8-10-12	P Hide	92
307	0-14232	JULIET JONES 15 (S) (J Plackett) P Butler 6-10-12	M A Fitzgerald	73

BETTING: 5-2 Dancing Paddy, 3-1 Kadi, 7-2 Brief Gale, 9-2 Montebel, 5-1 Tug Of Peace, 12-1 Juliet Jones, 14-1 Pennine Pass.

1994: MONSIEUR LE CURE 8-11-3 N Williamson (9-4) J Edwards 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

DANCING PADDY beat Gaes Cavalier 14l in 4-runner novice chase at Ascot (2m, soft) on penultimate start, with BRIEF GALE (7lb better off) 39l 3rd. KADI beat Spartan Silver 34l in 5-runner novice chase at Sandown (2m 4f 110yd, heavy) with TUG OF PEACE fell 12th. MONTEBEL beat Yeoman Warrior 3l in 8-runner novice chase at Sandown (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft) TUG OF PEACE distant 3rd of 8 to Banjo in grade I Scilly Isles Novice Chase at Sandown (2m 4f 110yd, soft) on penultimate start. BRIEF GALE 5l 2nd of 6 to High Baron in novice chase at Kempton (2m 4f 110yd, soft) on penultimate start, with KADI 12l 3rd. JULIET JONES 13l 2nd of 6 to Auburn Castle in novice chase at Newbury (2m 1f, heavy).
Selection: BRIEF GALE

3.35 VOICE NEWSPAPER ADONIS JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (Grade II: 4-Y-O: £9,780: 2m) (7 runners) — C4

401	11111	SILVER WEDGE 49 (CD,G,S) (Mrs S Robins) D Nicholson 11-6	A Maguire	99
402	122111	GREENBACK 65 (CD,F,G,S) (J Jocom) P Hobbs 11-2	Peter Hobbs	82
403	3	JOYS FIRST 50 (Miss J Reekie) H Collingridge 10-12	S McNeill	69
404	31	MEDITERRANEO 74 (S) (B & D Whitney) R Akehurst 10-12	R Dunwoody	72
405	6P50	NUVEEN 22 (S) (R Gatiam) Mrs J Jordan 10-12	D Morris	—
406	25322P	PLATO'S REPUBLIC 77 (D,F) (Mrs E Long) J Jenkins 10-12	A P McCoy	81
407	0	SERIOUS DANGER 70 (Executive Racing) Miss H Knight 10-12	J Osborne	—

BETTING: 2-5 Silver Wedge, 5-1 Greenback, 6-1 Mediterraneo, 10-1 Joys First, 12-1 Plato's Republic, 16-1 Serious Danger, 40-1 Nuveen

1994: MYSILV 4-11-1 A Maguire (1-5 fav) D Nicholson 3 ran

FORM FOCUS

SILVER WEDGE beat Calisse Bay 11l in grade I Endly Tolworth Hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, soft). GREENBACK beat PLATO'S REPUBLIC (10lb better off) 11l in 7-runner juvenile hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, good). JOYS FIRST 25l 3rd of 7 to Balanak in juvenile hurdle at Towcester (2m, heavy). MEDITERRANEO beat Dynamic Deluxe 2½l in 13-runner juvenile hurdle at Folkestone (2m 1f 110yd, good to soft). NUVEEN 40l 8th of 15 to Uncle Doug in juvenile hurdle at Kelso (2m 110yd, good to soft). SERIOUS DANGER 68l 9th of 16 to Dockmaster in juvenile hurdle at Nottingham (2m, good to soft).
Selection: SILVER WEDGE

4.10 RACING POST CHASE — C4
(Handicap: grade III: £29,700: 3m) (9 runners)

501	4-15131	ALGAN 61 (CD,S) (Marquesa de Moratalla) F Doumen (Fr) 7-11-10	Philippe Chevalier	91
502	112-211	VAL D'ALENE 68 (D,G,S) (M de Montrol) F Doumen (Fr) 8-11-2	A Kondrat	90
503	12-4P65	ANTONIN 27 (CD,F,G,S) (B Bailey Ltd) Mrs S Bramall 7-11-2	J Burke	99
504	11U-11U	ONE MAN 61 (D,BF,F,G,S) (J Hales) G Richards 7-10-12	A Dobbin	92
505	122F-51	ZETA'S LAD 7 (CD,F,G,S) (Uplands Bloodstock) C Brooks 12-10-11	G Bradley	98
506	P-21P13	WHISPERING STEEL 21 (B,D,G,S) (J Gillow) K Bailey 9-10-10	N Williamson	96
507	F3-1113	AMTRAK EXPRESS 17 (C,F,G,S) (Amtrak Ltd) N Henderson 8-10-6	M A Fitzgerald	97
508	PF3220	SOUTHOLT 17 (F,G,S) (G Hubbard) G Hubbard 7-10-2	Richard Guest	93
509	11111-5	SHEER ABILITY 28 (D,G,S) (M Devlin) C Mann 9-10-0	A Maguire	89

Long handicap: Sheer Ability 9-13

BETTING: 6-4 One Man, 7-1 Zeta's Lad, Val D'Alene, 8-1 Algan, Sheer Ability, 10-1 Amtrak Express, Whispering Steel, 14-1 Antonin, 16-1 Southolt.

1994: ANTONIN 6-10-4 J Burke (7-1) Mrs S Bramall 16 ran

FORM FOCUS

ALGAN beat Monsieur Le Cure 2½l in 9-runner grade 1 King George VI Chase over course and distance (soft). VAL D'ALENE beat Bowl Of Oats 4l in 8-runner handicap chase at Lingfield (3m, heavy). ANTONIN (last years winner) 21½l 5th of 8 to Sullane River in grade II Pierse Handicap Chase at Fairyhouse (3m, heavy). ONE MAN beat Lord Relic 2l in 16-runner grade II Hennessy Gold Cup Handicap Chase at Newbury (3m 2f 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start. ZETA'S LAD beat Royal Athlete 2½l in 4-runner conditions chase at Windsor (3m, heavy). WHISPERING STEEL 5¾l 3rd of 11 to Deep Bramble in the grade II Agfa Limited Handicap Chase at Sandown (3m 110yd, soft). Previously beat Superior Finish 1¾l in 5-runner handicap chase at Ascot (3m 110yd, good). AMTRAK EXPRESS 10l 3rd of 6 to Martha's Son in grade I Comet Chase at Ascot (2m 3f 110yd, soft) with SOUTHOLT (4lb better off) unseated rider 8th. SOUTHOLT 12l 2nd of 10 to Couldnt Be Better in handicap chase at Cheltenham (2m 5l, heavy) on penultimate start, with SHEER ABILITY (3lb worse off) 35l 5th. SHEER ABILITY last term beat Trumpet 4l in 5-runner handicap chase at Worcester (2m 7l, good) March 1994.
Selection: ONE MAN

4.40 BENDLESHAM HURDLE — C4
(Limited handicap: grade II: £9,465: 3m 110yd) (5 runners)

601	F16-111	CYBORGO 43 (D,G,S) (County Stores Holdings Ltd) M Pipe 5-11-7	R Dunwoody	99
602	22	ALLEGAN 17 (Kings Farm Partnership) C Mann 6-11-7	M A Fitzgerald	50
603	3-51014	BOG FROG 70 (S) (Mrs D Scarsbrick) F Doumen (Fr) 6-11-7	A Kondrat	90
604	422612	TOP SPIN 4 (C,F,G,S) (Mrs E Long) J Jenkins 6-10-7	A Maguire	87
605	12-4FP3	CABOCHON 54 (G,S) (J Joseph) R Frost 8-10-7	J Frost	80

BETTING: 5-4 Cyborgo, 6-4 Bog Frog, 3-1 Top Spin, 16-1 Cabochon, 20-1 Allegan.

1994: BALASANI 8-11-5 R Dunwoody (5-2) M Pipe 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

CYBORGO beat Island Jewel 5l in 8-runner handicap hurdle at Ascot (3m, good). ALLEGAN 1¾l 2nd of 18 to Certainly Strong in novice hurdle at Ludlow (2m 5f 110yd, good to soft). BOG FROG about 11l 4th of 8 to Hebridean in grade I Long Walk Hurdle at Ascot (3m 1f 110yd, good) with TOP SPIN (14lb better off) 20l 6th. TOP SPIN beat Shujan 10l in 6-runner limited handicap hurdle at Chepstow (2m 4f 110yd, heavy) on penultimate start. CABOCHON 23l 3rd of 7 to Trying Again in handicap hurdle at Exeter (2m 2l, heavy).
Selection: CYBORGO (nap)

5.10 KEMPTON OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE
(£1,996: 2m) (19 runners)

1	1	MONICASMAN 7 (S) (A Turnbull) A Jarvis 5-11-10	A Maguire	—
2	31-	WHATTABOB 425 (S) (Mrs M Turner) N Henderson 6-11-10	M A Fitzgerald	—
3		BARONET (Mrs D Thompson) M Pipe 5-11-3	R Dunwoody	—
4		BIT OF ROUGH (The Fairway Partnership) S Dow 5-11-3	A Dicken	—
5	3-3	FAR EAST 16 (R Peake) Mrs J Renfree-Barons 6-11-3	R Greene	—
6	5	FORTINA'S CONQUEST 50 (Mrs D Hodges) Miss H Knight 5-11-3	P Hide	—
7	0	MENDIP PRINCE 122 (Three Ply Racing) P Hobbs 5-11-3	G Tormey (5)	—
8	4	OBAN 77 (Lord Harlington) Miss H Knight 5-11-3	J Osborne	—
9	0-	SGT CHILDCRAFT 311 (A Loze) R Frost 5-11-3	R Darke	—
10	0	SIR LEONARD 42 (Mrs J Bishop) S Sherwood 5-11-3	T Jenks	—
11		THE HERBIVORE (M Roberts) M Roberts 6-11-3	Richard Guest	—
12		WOODCOCK CORNER (F Tylor) R Frost 6-11-3	J Frost	—
13	8	BUCKLAND FILLEIGH 16 (P Luff) P Hobbs 5-10-12	Peter Hobbs	—
14		ELL GEE (Mrs P Townsley) Mrs P Townsley 5-10-12	Mr P Townsley	—
15		FALCON'S IMAGE (T Pryke) K Morgan 4-10-7	A S Smith	—
16		JIMBO (T Long) J Jenkins 4-10-7	A P McCoy (3)	—
17		MAITRE DE MUSIQUE (R Ogden) A Tonnell 4-10-7	S McNeill	—
18	0	RAKNAGAR 17 (The Stanton Seven) Miss J Doyle 4-10-7	S Curran (3)	—
19	06	SON OF A GUNNER 8 (J Neville) R Simpson 4-10-7	N Williamson	—

BETTING: 3-1 Monicasman, 9-2 Whattabob, 5-1 Baronet, 6-1 Falcon's Image, 7-1 Far East, 10-1 Oban, 12-1 Fortina's Conquest, 14-1 others.

1994: PUNTERS OVERHEAD 6-11-3 L Reynolds (16-1) M Pipe 20 ran

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
F Doumen (Fr)	3	10	30.0	N Williamson	11	47	23.4
K Bailey	12	43	27.9	R Dunwoody	26	113	23.0
N Henderson	20	74	27.0	M A Fitzgerald	10	45	22.2
D Gandolfo	3	12	25.0	Peter Hobbs	9	45	20.0
M Pipe	16	71	22.5	J Osborne	26	133	19.5
D Nicholson	13	62	21.0	P Hide	4	22	18.2

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RACING NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: Southwell (AW, first race 2.20), Newcastle (2.10), Plumpton (2.00).
TUESDAY: Lingfield Park (AW, 2.30), Catterick (1.50), Nottingham (2.10).
WEDNESDAY: Wolverhampton (AW, 2.10), Taunton (2.00), Wetherby (1.50).
THURSDAY: Lingfield Park (AW, 2.10), Leicester (2.20), Ludlow (2.00)
FRIDAY: Southwell (AW, 2.10), Kelso (2.20), Newbury (2.00).
SATURDAY: Lingfield Park (AW, 2.10), Wolverhampton (AW, 7.00), Doncaster (C4, 1.55), Newbury (BBC, 1.00), Warwick (2.20).
Flat meetings in bold

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8 Algan — 20 Southolt
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HAYDOCK PARK

THUNDERER

1.00 Gobsmacked
1.30 Sweet Duke
2.00 Attadale
2.30 Earth Summit
3.05 Jack Button
3.40 Dual Image
4.15 Dato Star

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.05 JACK BUTTON.

GOING: HEAVY — SIS

1.00 DE VERE HOTELS VICTOR LUDORUM NOVICES HURDLE (Limited handicap: 4-Y-O: £7,064: 2m) (8 runners) — BBC1

1	14	GOBSMACKED 40 (D,BF,S) (J Potter) G Richards 11-10	M Moloney	88
2	U42	INCULCATE 38 (B) (Swan Racing) C Weedon 11-8	D Fortt (5)	96
3	346162	TWIN FALLS 35 (G) (Mrs S Moore) G Moore 11-7	N Bentley	96
4	112611	NORDIC CROWN 44 (B,D,G,S) (A Lomas) M Pipe 11-6	C Swan	97
5	44251	MUNTAR 15 (D,S) (One Over Eight Partnership) G Harwood 11-5	M Perrett	99
6	121330	GLENUGIE 22 (D,F) (F Hines) G Moore 11-3	D Bridgwater	90
7	41044	ZAITOON 7 (D,G) (Cheltenham Racing) D Nicholson 11-1	W Marston	88
8	650	ASTRAL INVASION 60 (Ed Weetman, Reynolds and Dean) W Clay 10-4	Diane Clay	85

BETTING: 4-1 Muntar, 9-2 Nordic Crown, Twin Falls, 5-1 Gobsmacked, Inculcate, 11-2 Zaitoon, 14-1 Glenugie, 16-1 Astral Invasion.

1994: MEETING ABANDONED — SNOW

FORM FOCUS

GOBSMACKED beat Golden Hello 1¾l in 13-runner novice hurdle at Wetherby (2m, soft) on penultimate start with ASTRAL INVASION (20lb better off) 19½l 7th. INCULCATE 2½l 2nd of 18 to Balanak in a novice hurdle at Windsor (2m, soft). TWIN FALLS 3l 2nd of 13 to King Athelstan in a handicap hurdle at Catterick (2m, heavy). NORDIC CROWN completed double beat Mendip Son 2½l in a 19-runner claiming novice hurdle at Wincanton (2m, good). MUNTAR beat Dress Dance 4l in a 15-runner novice handicap hurdle at Newbury (2m 110yd, heavy). ZAITOON 25l 4th of 10 to Brave Tornado in the grade II Finesse 4-Y-O Hurdle at Cheltenham (2m 1l, heavy) on penultimate start.
Selection: MUNTAR

1.30 BLACK DEATH VODKA CHASE — BBC1
(£10,845: 2m 4f) (3 runners)

1	1340-54	BARELY BLACK 57 (D,S) (J Cantrill) N Babbage 7-11-4	W Humphreys	50
2	1-32112	VALIANT WARRIOR 7 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (P Sellars) M Hammond 7-11-4	D Bentley	83
3	151311	SWEET DUKE 17 (CD,G,S) (A Mavros) N Twiston-Davies 8-11-0	D Bridgwater	99

BETTING: 4-7 Sweet Duke, 6-4 Valiant Warrior, 25-1 Barely Black.

FORM FOCUS

BARELY BLACK about 25l 4th of 6 to Jailbreaker in handicap chase at Leicester (2m 4f 110yd, good to soft). VALIANT WARRIOR 1l 2nd of 12 to Mr Woodcock in handicap chase at Newcastle (2m 4f, good to soft). Previously, completed double, beat Boston Rover 5l in handicap chase at Catterick (2m 3l, soft). SWEET DUKE, completed double, beat Smith's Band distance in 10-runner grade II Reynoldstown Novices' Chase at Ascot (3m 110yd, soft). Previously beat The Frog Prince 9l in 7-runner course and distance novice chase (heavy).
Selection: SWEET DUKE

2.00 STRETTON LEISURE QUEEN OF HEARTS HANDICAP HURDLE (£7,142: 2m 4f) (7 runners) — BBC1

1	1/00622-	LEMON'S MILL 299 (D,F,G) (S Mercer) M Pipe 6-12-0	C Swan	90
2	0111-65	ATTADALE 7 (D,BF,F,G,S) (C McGhie) L Lungo 7-12-0	M Perrett	97
3	0-11125	IVY HOUSE 21 (C,BF,G,S) (Mrs L Joughin) J J O'Neill 7-11-2	M Dwyer	94
4	43-4332	COURT MASTER 23 (BF) (Vice Admiral Sir Fitzroy Talbot) R Buckler 7-10-4	B Powell	87
5	34-124F	WITH IMPUNITY 21 (C,D,G,S) (Guest Leasing) N Twiston-Davies 6-10-1	D Bridgwater	95
6	21U11/4	PLASTIC SPACEAGE 9 (G,S) (Spaceage Plastics Ltd) J Old 12-10-0	T Grantham	94
7	5P12-13	SANSOOL 18 (V,D,BF,S) (A Whillans) A Whillans 9-10-0	M Moloney	99

Long handicap: Plastic Spaceage 9-11, Sansool 9-11.

BETTING: 9-4 Attadale, 3-1 Lemon's Mill, 5-1 Court Master, 6-1 Plastic Spaceage, 8-1 With Impunity, Ivy House, 10-1 Sansool.

FORM FOCUS

LEMON'S MILL 2½l 2nd of 5 to Loch Scavaig in handicap hurdle over course and distance (good to firm) May 1994. ATTADALE 16l 5th of 19 to Chief Minister in a handicap hurdle at Newcastle (2m 4f, good to soft). IVY HOUSE 7l 2nd of 13 to Cyborgo in handicap hurdle at Cheltenham (3m 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start. COURT MASTER 2¾l 2nd of 18 to Treasure Again in novice hurdle at Towcester (2m, heavy). WITH IMPUNITY best recent effort 1¾l 2nd of 8 to Eid in handicap hurdle here (2m 5l, good). PLASTIC SPACEAGE about 4l last of 4 to Zealous Kitten in a handicap hurdle at Sandown (2m 110yd, heavy). SANSOOL beat Oat Couture 6l in 11-runner handicap hurdle at Carlisle (2m 4l 110yd, soft) penultimate start.
Selection: COURT MASTER

2.30 GREENALLS GOLD CUP — BBC1
(Handicap chase: £25,523: 3m 4f 110yd) (12 runners)

1	122F-51	ZETA'S LAD 7 (C,F,G,S) (Uplands Bloodstock) C Brooks 12-11-8 (Sex)	2nd pref	93
2	30R-22F	RUN FOR FREE 84 (C,F,G,S) (Mrs Millicent R Freethy) M Pipe 11-11-7	M Perrett	91
3	51F21P	EARTH SUMMIT 21 (B,C,G,S) (Summit Partners) N T-Davies 7-11-6	D Bridgwater	98
4	P10/1-23	PARTY POLITICS 56 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs D Thompson) N Gaselee 11-11-2	M Dwyer	98
5	212223	NUAFFE 20 (G,S) (J Doyle) P Fahy (Ire) 10-11-0	S O'Donovan	94
6	+R4-2625	RIVERSIDE BOY 21 (V,G,S) (Bisgrove Partnership) M Pipe 12-10-13	C Swan	95
7	36-3F4P	COOL GROUND 21 (CD,G,S) (Whitcombe Manor) D Elsworth 13-10-3	M Bosley	94
8	1P3P-22	SUPERIOR FINISH 21 (G,S) (G Henley) Mrs J Pitman 9-10-2	W Marston	99
9	P-3U055	CAPABILITY BROWN 14 (C,F,G,S) (D Lewis) R Price 8-10-0	R Supple	90
10	102-604	JUST SO 14 (B,S) (H Cole) H Cole 12-10-0	B Powell	81
11	4215-00	PLENTY CRACK 22 (D,G,S) (B Mactaggart) B Mactaggart 12-10-0	D Bentley	87
12	5/12112	VICOMPT DE VALMONT 49 (B,BF,G,S) (J Blackwell) P Nicholls 10-10-0	C Maude	81

Long handicap: Capability Brown 9-12, Just So 9-10, Plenty Crack 9-3, Vicompt De Valmont 9-2.

☐ Zeta's Lad has the 4.10 Kempton Park as a first preference

BETTING: 7-2 Superior Finish, 4-1 Nuaffe, 9-2 Party Politics, 5-1 Earth Summit, 8-1 Vicompt De Valmont, 14-1 Riverside Boy, Run For Free, 20-1 Cool Ground, Just So, 33-1 Capability Brown, 66-1 Plenty Crack.

1994 (run at Kempton Park): MASTER OATS 8-10-2 N Williamson (11-4 jt-fav) K Bailey 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

RUN FOR FREE 7l 2nd of 4 to Captain Dibble in a limited handicap chase here (3m, good to soft). EARTH SUMMIT beat Chatam 1¾l in the 4-runner grade II Peter Marsh Handicap Chase here (3m, heavy). Earlier 20l 2nd of 8 to Master Oats in the grade III Coral Welsh National Handicap Chase at Newbury (3m 6l, heavy) with PARTY POLITICS (11lb better off) 25l 3rd and CAPABILITY BROWN (14lb better off) 1¾l 5th. NUAFFE 18l 3rd of 6 to Jodami in the grade I Hennessy Gold Cup at Leopardstown (3m, soft to heavy). RIVERSIDE BOY 1¾l 2nd of 10 to Deep Bramble in a handicap chase at Sandown (3m 5l 110yd, good to soft) penultimate start with COOL GROUND ¾l 4th. SUPERIOR FINISH 5l 2nd of 11 to Deep Bramble in grade II Agfa Limited Handicap Chase at Sandown (3m 110yd, soft) with RIVERSIDE BOY (2lb worse off) 21l 5th, JUST SO (2lb better off) 22l 8th, EARTH SUMMIT (2lb worse off) pulled up and COOL GROUND (1lb worse off) pulled up. JUST SO 37½l 4th of 6 to Hill Trix in handicap chase at Newbury (3m 2l 110yd, heavy) with CAPABILITY BROWN (4lb better off) 5l 5th. VICOMPT DE VALMONT 6l 2nd of 7 to Willsford in Warwick handicap chase (3m 5l, soft).
Selection: PARTY POLITICS

3.05 DORMOUSE MAIDEN HURDLE (£3,144: 2m 6f) (13 runners)

1	0P00-P	ABSOLUTELYMUSTARD 28 (Mrs M Roper) J Jefferson 6-11-7	R Davis	—
2	0-P5	ALFION 38 (A Chadwick) C Weedon 6-11-7	O O'Sullivan	—
3	33/354-F	BRABINER LAD 23 (T Laxton) T Laxton 11-11-7	S Turner	90
4	10-5P4	FEELS LIKE GOLD 18 (S) (Independent Twine Ltd) M Pipe 7-11-7	M Perrett	84
5	3	ISLAND CHIEF 84 (G Didger) P Beaumont 6-11-7	R Supple	86
6	2	JACK BUTTON 42 (A and B Racing) Bob Jones 6-11-7	D Bridgwater	99
7		MOSSIDE (C Butler) H Howe 6-11-7	B Powell	—
8	00-F	POND HOUSE 7 (C Fleet) M Pipe 6-11-7	C Swan	—
9	206-P	SEAHAWK RETRIEVER 113 (Jimmy Fitzgerald) Jimmy Fitzgerald 6-11-7	W Dwan	—
10	0/0P0-UP	THIRD SCHEDULE 7 (Miss C Fagerstrom) R Lee 7-11-7	C Maude	—
11	2-1252	UNCLE KEENY 18 (S) (R Seed) J J O'Neill 5-11-7	M Dwyer	84
12	0-00	CASTLE ROUSE 14 (D McCain) D McCain 6-11-2	D McCain (5)	60
13	0/-52P	WADSWICK COUNTRY 16 (A Jones) A Jones 8-11-2	W McFarland	79

BETTING: 6-4 Jack Button, 4-1 Island Chief, 9-2 Feels Like Gold, 11-2 Uncle Keeny, 10-1 Seahawk Retriever, 16-1 Alfion, 20-1 others.

3.40 MAD HATTER NOVICES CHASE (£5,446: 2m) (4 runners)

1	22141F	DUAL IMAGE 7 (D,F,G,S) (Datum Building Ltd) Jimmy Fitzgerald 8-11-12	M Dwyer	99
2	2P6F15	JAMES THE FIRST 23 (D,F,G,S) (D Nichols) P Nicholls 7-11-9	C Maude	90
3	P-43502	HIGHLAND POACHER 14 (S) (G Gay Sellers) D McCain 8-11-5	D McCain	59
4	332P30	PARIAH 18 (Mrs D Miller) R Fisher 6-11-5	D Bridgwater	—

BETTING: 1-2 Dual Image, 3-1 James The First, 6-1 Pariah, 25-1 Highland Poacher.

4.15 BONUSPRINT NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,382: 2m) (8 runners)

1	0	KENTUCKY GOLD 35 (Halewood International Ltd) D McCain 6-11-10	D McCain (5)	—
2	U0	OLIVER'S SECRET 35 (C Fleet) M Pipe 5-11-10	O Burrows (7)	—
3	1	DATO STAR 28 (S) (Mrs K Riley) J Jefferson 4-11-7	M Newton (7)	—
4	1	GENERAL'S ORDERS 35 (S) (Mrs S Blakeley) J Norton 4-11-7	W Fry (7)	—
5	0	GUINDA 18 (BF) (Mrs J Powell) N Twiston-Davies 5-11-5	Mr S Joynes (7)	—
6	24	ALL CLEAR 17 (BF) (A Lomas) M Pipe 4-11-0	L Reynolds (7)	—
7	6	CHILI-WAH-WAH 50 (The Ox Hill Flyers) C Smith 4-11-0	Mr P Henly (7)	—
8		SEDGWICK HOUSE (Mrs D Miller) R Fisher 4-10-9	M Molloy (7)	—

BETTING: 6-4 General's Orders, 9-4 Dato Star, 4-1 All Clear, 6-1 Guinda, 12-1 Sedgwick House, 16-1 Oliver's Secret, 20-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
N Gaselee	4	9	44.4	D Bridgwater	4	13	30.8
G Richards	38	126	30.2	M Dwyer	22	121	18.2
D Nicholson	9	32	28.1	M Perrett	4	29	13.8
M Pipe	33	120	27.5				
Jimmy Fitzgerald	14	53	26.4				
C Brooks	8	31	25.8	Only qualifiers			

Cochrane loses appeal over Wolverhampton suspension

RAY COCHRANE yesterday lost his appeal against a six-day ban, imposed by the Wolverhampton stewards last Saturday, and will start his suspension on Monday.

Cochrane was banned for irresponsible riding when his mount, Dynamis, was found to have interfered with Jon's Choice, ridden by Trevor Wall. Wall and Gary Carter, the rider of Greatest, and Jimmy Quinn, who rode Cronk's Courage in the race, gave evidence on behalf of Cochrane.

But the Jockey Club disciplinary committee considered that the interference was caused by Cochrane and dismissed the appeal. The committee said: "By deliberately taking the line that he did around the first bend it should have been obvious to him that interference would be the *result*."

After the hearing Cochrane said he had no regrets about lodging the appeal. "I think it was a fair hearing," he said. "It's very rare these suspensions get turned over, but if you think that you've got a case then you've got to go for it."

Rusei a lon
DONCASTE
EDINBURGH

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Rusedski offers hope of a long overdue revival



Stuart Jones reveals the identity of a player who could inspire a sudden change in fortunes in British tennis

TONY PICKARD, on the eve of his departure from the captaincy of Britain's Davis Cup team, offered the most expedient solution to the nation's declining stature in tennis. He suggested that the general standard would be lifted if one player broke into the top 20.

Although he was curiously reluctant to reveal the identity of the potential saviour, he had Tim Henman in mind. At the time, last March, the 19-year-old had already infiltrated the top 200 and apparently needed only to strengthen a slender frame to climb significantly higher.

However, his progress was halted in the autumn, when he broke a foot and was kept out of action for about four months. Nevertheless, Pickard's ideal, that one individual could inspire everybody else, may yet be realised sooner than he imagined, albeit through a foreign source.

Greg Rusedski is believed to be close to ending speculation about his national preference, which has endured for a year. The left-hander was born in Montreal 21 years ago to a mother whose own birthplace was Dewsbury, not far from the venue of Britain's last Davis Cup defeat.

A frequent visitor to England — and particularly to London, where his girlfriend lives — he has often expressed his fondness for the country and a desire to make his home here. Yet he has been tied to Canada, whose national federation provided him with financial support.

He has recently severed those ties, by repaying the money given to him, and strengthened the view of the Canadians, at least, that he may be about to alter allegiances. The Lawn Tennis Association, while eager to accommodate him, is awaiting developments with patience that has long been extended.

"There is nothing we can do," Richard Lewis, the head of national training, said yesterday. "It would be improper of us to do anything anyway. He'll make up his mind when he is ready." By chance, Rusedski is scheduled to practise in London next week.

"That is not unusual," Lewis added. "He has been booked in for some time and he often uses our facilities here." To be able to use them on a more permanent basis, Rusedski would be obliged only to inform the LTA formally that he would like to represent Britain.

An application, made on his behalf by the LTA to the International Tennis Federation (ITF), would be almost certain to be accepted. With dual natinality, he meets all the requirements and the only sticking point would be his appearance for Canada in the World Youth Cup in Mexico in 1988.

"His case is not as clean as it might have been," an ITF spokesman confirmed. Anyone representing a nation may not play for another for three years. Notably, a prevaricating Rusedski has studiously avoided competing for Canada in the Davis Cup.

The ITF, which would not necessarily allow him to wear British colours immediately, would reach a decision during one of the management committee's four meetings throughout the year. They are held next month and in May, July and November.

The public, Lewis feels, would respond favourably to an adopted son akin to Lennox Lewis, several England cricketers and almost all of Ireland's footballers. Rusedski, with the fastest recorded serve (137mph), would be an especially popular force at Wimbledon.

During an otherwise undistinguished year, last June he reached his highest ranking, No 41. Although he temporarily fell out of the top 100, he has climbed back up to within 54 places of the status that Pickard recommends as having the necessary impact.



Rusedski's power would be popular with spectators

SPORT IN BRIEF

Prosecutors consider Senna death report

A LAWYER representing the Williams Formula One motor racing team said in Rome yesterday he was convinced there was no question of any of his clients facing a prison sentence as a result of the crash that killed Ayrton Senna at Imola last May. "The risk . . . is non-existent," Roberto Causo said after a 500-page report on the deaths of Senna and Roland Ratzenberger at the San Marino Grand Prix had been handed to Italian public prosecutors.

They must decide whether to press manslaughter charges against 17 people, including the team leader, Frank Williams, his technical director, Patrick Head, and officials of the Sagis company that runs the Imola track. Causo, who also represents the Simtek team, for which Ratzenberger raced, said the maximum penalty he expected if anyone was found guilty was a four-month suspended sentence.

Encouraging result

FOOTBALL: The England women's team put up a spirited performance in Bochum in the second leg of their European championship semi-final against Germany on Thursday night, going down 2-1 after taking the lead in the first minute (Alyson Rudd writes). It was a much-improved performance from the first leg, at Watford in December, a game that the Germans won 4-1.

The display raised hopes of a good showing in the women's World Cup in Sweden in June, the continued use of a sweeper, tested against Italy last month, proving successful. "We are improving all the time," Ted Copeland, the England manager, said.

Purvis eyes record

CYCLING: Marie Purvis, the best British performer in the women's Tour de France and the national road race champion four years in succession, will make her track debut next month when she attacks the British one-hour record at Manchester. Her target is to improve on Mandy Jones's distance of 41.3km set on the outdoor track at Leicester in 1981, a year before Jones won the world road race championship at Goodwood. Purvis joined the North Wirrall Velo-Kodak team, managed by Chris Boardman, in January and plans a mixed season of international track and road competition with the 1996 Olympics in mind.

Lifejackets required

ROWING: After two blank days because of a swollen and fast-flowing river, the Oxford University Torpids got under way on the Isis yesterday, but only three divisions of six crews were staged. It is hoped today to stage 11 divisions — six men's and five women's — and they will again be reduced to six crews. Because of the conditions, coxswains were ordered to wear lifejackets and, in the men's second division, St Edmund Hall and Balliol were bumped down one place when their coxwains were discovered not to be wearing them.

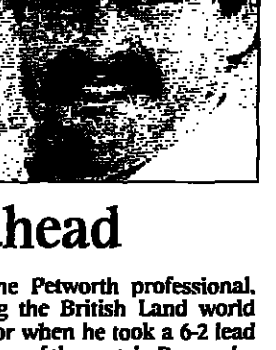
Bumps and starting order, page 43

Bad day for Sampras

TENNIS: Pete Sampras, the world No 1 from the United States, lost 6-4, 6-4 to Paul Haarhuis, the world No 47 from Holland, in the second round of the US indoor tournament in Philadelphia. "It was a bad day and it is very disappointing," Sampras said. Michael Chang, the third seed, beat Jim Grabb, a fellow American, 7-6, 7-5.

☐ Lizzie Jelfs, a wild-card entry from Banbury, was knocked out in the semi-finals of the LTA women's challenger event at Newcastle by Olga Ivanova, of Russia, 6-2, 6-3.

Senior penalised



GOLF: Peter Senior, right, from Australia, suffered a setback yesterday in his attempt to secure a second successive tour victory when he played the wrong ball at the final hole of the second round of the Canon Challenge tournament in Sydney. Senior was penalised two shots and slipped to three strokes behind his compatriots, Grant Kenny, Tim Elliot and Glenn Joyner, the joint-leaders.

Bray forges ahead

REAL TENNIS: Chris Bray, the Petworth professional, came within one set of winning the British Land world championship national eliminator when he took a 6-2 lead over Julian Snow on the second day of the match. Bray, who had a 3-1 lead on the first day against the world No 2, took the first three sets 6-5. Bray needs one more set tomorrow to win the best-of-13 eliminator and challenge for the Australian, Robert Fahey's, world title in April.

Royal Jester to triumph

POINT-TO-POINT BY BRIAN BEEL

ROYAL JESTER will have his final warm-up race for the Cheltenham Foxhunters at Friars Haugh today in the **Berwickshire** Open. The course, next to the River Tweed, has underlying gravel and the going is expected to be no worse than good to soft.

It was here last season that Royal Jester went down by half a length to Randolph Place before running up a sequence of three wins at Kelso. On his return to Kelso this season, he split Miners Melody and Davy Blake with the Edinburgh winner, Sparkling Flame, 30 lengths behind in fourth place. None among the 25 entry for today's race, a Land Rover qualifier, looks capable of extending him.

A record entry of 239 has caused a nine-race card but this has been well exceeded at the **North Hereford**, where ten events are needed to cope with 275.

Gold Shot, the winner of the first Times Rising Stars final, returns in division one of the Open after a season's absence. Since his injury in the 1994 John Corbet he has been fired and is now fully fit. He will have one more run in a hunter chase, possibly at Ludlow on Thursday, and then on to the Cheltenham Foxhunters.

Ten races are also scheduled for Cottenham, where an interesting Open race is in prospect at the **Cambridge University** meeting with Shannon Glen. Strong Gold and Brown Windsor in the line-up. A winner of two handicap hurdles last season for Jenny Pitman, Shannon Glen was bought at the Ascot Sales by Peter Bonner. His point-to-point debut was a winning one at Higham and he will be difficult to beat.

Waterlogging has again postponed the Vale of Clettwr and also prevented the Mendip Farmers and Bolventor from racing.

TODAY'S MEETINGS: Berwickshire, Friars Haugh, one mile west of Kelso (first race 12.00). Cambridge University, Cottenham, 5m N of Cambridge (12.00); Hursley Hambledon, Badbury Rings, 5m SE of Blandford (12.00); Mid-Surrey Farmers, Charing, 6m NW of Ashford (12.30); North Herefordshire, Newtown, 7m NE of Hereford (12.00)

TOMORROW: Cranwell Bloodhounds, Southwell racecourse (11.30). South Pool Harriers, Ottery St Mary, 1m SW of town (1.00).

DONCASTER

THUNDERER

2.10 Must Be Magical. 2.40 Talbot. 3.15 Golden Hello. 3.45 Top Cees. 4.20 Newlands-General. 4.50 Doradus. 5.20 Twice A Night.

GOING: GOOD (CHASE); GOOD TO SOFT (HDLS) SIS

2.10 THORNE SELLING HURDLE
(£2,390: 2m 110yd) (18 runners)

1 2151 BOLD PURSUIT 36 (D,S) Jimmy Fitzgerald 6-11-12 E Callaghan (7)
2 3/5 SAYH 79 (BF,S) J White 6-11-12 J Railton
3 04P5 BELIEVE IT 18 N Waggott 6-11-6 Miss T Waggott
4 542- EIGHTANDAHALF 15F Mrs V Aconley 6-11-6 P Gould (7)
5 -005 MAYD MAN 74 (B) E Alston 6-11-6 A Procter (3)
6 0362 MUST BE MAGICAL 17 F Bradley 7-11-6 B Harding (5)
7 /00 PARISIENNE KING 78 R Marvin 6-11-6 W Worthington
8 0-P0 ROBINS PRIDE 21 N Tinkler 5-11-6 L Wyer
9 4U36 SCRABO VIEW 8 P Beaumont 7-11-6 C Hawkins
10 0P TROUBLE SHOOT 23 Mrs M McCourt 5-11-6 G McCourt
11 EMMA'S VISION 243F M Avison 5-11-1 R Garritty
12 0R- GRIMSTON PARK 322P J Wharton 7-11-1 B Dalton
13 0410 PETITE BIJOU 33F (D,S) R Brotherton 4-10-11 L Harvey
14 ALPINE JOHNNY 31F R Hollinshead 4-10-10 S Wynne (3)
15 46 SCUD MISSILE 17 G Johnson Houghton 4-10-10 A Thornton
16 P0 TWISP 70 M Tompkins 4-10-10 M Richards
17 0 AMY'S DREAM 36 R Woodhouse 4-10-5 L O'Hara
18 P350 TRECENTO 37 J Mackie 4-10-5 T Eley (3)

7-2 Bold Pursuit, 4-1 Must Be Magical, 5-1 Eightandahalf, 7-1 Scrabo View, 8-1 Believe It, Scud Missile, 10-1 Petite Bijou, 12-1 others.

2.40 AUCKLAND HILL NOVICES CHASE
(£3,522: 3m) (17)

1 311F MASTER BOSTON 28 (G,S) R Woodhouse 7-11-12 L Wyer
2 12PP PARSON'S WAY 72 (B,G) A Jones 8-11-6 L Harvey
3 U210 RICHARDSON 46 (F,S) Jimmy Fitzgerald 8-11-6 N Doughty
4 11-1 TALBOT 17 (D,S) C Egerton 9-11-6 J Railton
5 1P30 THE LIGHTER SIDE 109 (F,G,S) C Cowley 9-11-6 R Farrant
6 -2F1 TURNING TRIX 38 (G,S) S Sherwood 8-11-6 M Richards
7 /U3 BARICHSTE 23 M W Easterby 7-11-0 R Garritty
8 4-FU CELTIC TOWN 84 (BF,S) O Sherwood 7-11-0 J A McCarthy
9 3300 CHIAROSCURO 16 (S) C Price 9-11-0 R Bellamy
10 3-54 CROPREDY LAD 102 (F) J Webber 8-11-0 G McCourt
11 /0F DAVID JOHN 30 S Christian 8-11-0 G Upton
12 -PP0 DRUSO 8 (G) R Marvin 11-11-0 W Worthington
13 /40 FLYING MISSILE 7 (G) A Jarvis 9-11-0 A Jonas
14 335- GROOMSMAN 281 (G) N Babbage 9-11-0 J R Kavanagh
15 FFP0 HAL'S PRINCE 38 J Needham 8-11-0 A Thornton
16 3F-0 YOUNG PARSON 49 A Bailey 9-11-0 J F Titley
17 5-P0 MIDORI 42 Mrs A Tomlinson 7-10-9 Mr K Green

5-2 Talbot, 4-1 Turning Trix, 5-1 Richardson, 7-1 Master Boston, 8-1 Celtic Town, 10-1 The Lighter Side, 12-1 Parson's Way, Groomsman, 14-1 others

3.15 OPEN MORNING JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (£2,408: 2m 4f) (16)

1 2212 GOLDEN HELLO 22 (BF,G) M H Easterby 11-4 L Wyer
2 001 NEW TRIBE 38 (S) J White 11-4 P McLoughlin (5)
3 1656 OZZIE JONES 8F (F) M Chapman 11-4 W Worthington
4 505 DALLAI 15F Mrs N Macauley 10-12 J Railton
5 0P ERETAN 38 T Thomson Jones 10-12 R Farrant
6 0 FADI 42 F Jordan 10-12 J Lodder
7 0 IRON GENT 38 P Hobbs 10-12 G McCourt
8 6030 JATHIB 7 C Williams 10-12 S Knightley
9 356 MARLINO 50 N Twiston-Davies 10-12 Mr M Rimell (7)
10 03 NO FIDDLING 18 M Wilkinson 10-12 J F Titley
11 3F6 RYAN GIGGS 21 A Jarvis 10-12 P Morris (7)
12 DARLYA 182F Mrs D Haine 10-7 J R Kavanagh
13 05 EMILYMOORE 22 P Beaumont 10-7 C Hawkins
14 00 MISSUS MURHILL 12F N Tinkler 10-7 E Husband (5)
15 F3 PEEP O DAY 14 Mrs M Reveley 10-7 R Hodge
16 04 TURRET 21 R Brotherton 10-7 L Harvey

7-2 Golden Hello, 4-1 New Tribe, 5-1 Peep O Day, 7-1 No Fiddling, 8-1 Turret, 9-1 Marlino, 12-1 Emilymoore, 14-1 Ryan Giggs, 16-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Mrs J Ramsden, 5 winners from 10 runners, 50.0%; P Cheesbrough, 4 from 11, 36.4%; R Lee, 3 from 12, 25.0%; O Sherwood, 7 from 30, 23.3%; Mrs M Reveley, 15 from 65, 23.1%; D Nicholson, 8 from 40, 20.0%.

JOCKEYS: L Wyer, 9 winners from 36 rides, 25.0%; G McCourt, 8 from 36, 22.2%; N Doughty, 3 from 19, 15.8%. Only qualifiers.

3.45 OLD CANTLEY HANDICAP HURDLE
(£3,542: 2m 110yd) (10)

1 -221 BLAST FREEZE 42 (D,G,S) N Henderson 6-11-10 J R Kavanagh
2 P4P- KIVETON TYCOON 294 (B,D,G,S) J Glover 6-11-7 Mr C Bonner (5)
3 3134 ISAIAH 16 (D,F,S) Mrs J Cecil 6-11-3 T Kent
4 1P/ COOLEY'S VALVE 681 (D,F) C Egerton 7-11-2 A Procter (3)
5 11/U EUROLINK THE LAD 8 (D,F,S) D Nicholson 8-11-2 R Bellamy
6 -114 LUMUMBA DAYS 8 (D,F,S) M Meade 9-11-1 J Railton
7 1112 INCHCAILLOCH 42 (D,BF,G,S) J King 6-10-11 G McCourt
8 -050 GYMCRAK STARDOM 42 (D,G,S) G Holmes 9-10-9 L Wyer
9 5312 TOP CEES 42 (D,BF,G) Mrs J Ramsden 5-10-6 R Garritty
10 20-3 SRIVIJAYA 16 (D,BF,F,G) Mrs M Reveley 8-10-5 G Lee (5)

3-1 Inchcailloch, 4-1 Blast Freeze, 5-1 Top Cees, 6-1 Srivijaya, 7-1 Lumumba Days, 8-1 Isaiah, 12-1 others.

4.20 BAWTRY NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE
(£5,898: 2m 3f 110yd) (20)

1 3F12 NEWLANDS-GENERAL 43 (BF,G,S) Jimmy Fitzgerald 9-11-11 E Callaghan (7)
2 0-12 BUTLER'S TWITCH 35 (G,S) O Sherwood 8-11-8 M Richards
3 6313 PURITAN 25 (BF,F,G,S) N Tinkler 6-10-10 G McCourt
4 /1F WAR COUNSEL 56 (S) Mrs D Haine 7-10-5 J F Titley
5 6060 CARDINAL RED 70 (F,G) B De Haan 8-10-3 G Upton
6 500P GOLDEN NUGGET 35 (S) E Alston 8-10-3 A Procter (3)
7 -3FU MAGELLAN BAY 84 Mrs J Pitman 7-10-2 E Murphy
8 P40P GLAISDALE 16 (V,S) M Tompkins 6-10-2 J Railton
9 311P PRINCESS HOTPOT 19 (D,BF,G) Miss H Knight 7-10-2 R Farrant
10 2-P2 THE CARROT MAN 19 P Winkworth 7-10-0 J R Kavanagh
11 -23F ANNIE KELLY 77 (S) J Wharton 7-10-0 B Dalton
12 0643 CAMBO 7 (B,G,S) M Banks 9-10-0 D Skyrme
13 0-60 SKEOUGH 38 (F,G) J Webber 7-10-0 R Bellamy
14 2441 CHARTERFORHARDWARE 7 (S) W Clay 9-10-0 J Lodder
15 0310 MASTER OF THE ROCK 74 (F,G,S) J Mackie 6-10-0 T Eley (3)
16 /F4 LO-FLYING MISSILE 50 R Dickin 7-10-0 A Thornton
17 -F65 CELTIC TOKEN 35 P Blockley 6-10-0 Gary Lyons
18 03R2 ALAMO SCOUT 12 P Burgoyne 8-10-0 I Lawrence
19 06P5 KETFORD BRIDGE 18 R Dickin 8-10-0 D Meredith (3)
20 0PPP CROSA'S DELIGHT 16 A Jones 8-10-0 L Harvey

3-1 Butler's Twitch, 9-2 Newlands-General, 5-1 Puritan, 7-1 War Counsel, 8-1 Charterforhardware, 10-1 Cambo, 12-1 The Carrot Man, 14-1 others.

4.50 FINNINGLEY HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,552: 2m 3f 110yd) (11)

1 1-20 STRONG SOUND 102 (BF,F,G,S) P Cheesbrough 8-12-0 K Johnson
2 1343 MUTUAL TRUST 18 (F,G,S) G Richards 11-11-13 B Harding (5)
3 4263 SAILORS LUCK 17 (G,S) P Murphy 10-11-13 E Murphy
4 -112 DORADUS 19 (C,F,G) Jimmy Fitzgerald 7-11-11 E Callaghan (7)
5 -P4P BUCKS SURPRISE 86 (G) J Mackie 7-11-0 J F Titley
6 15-5 RARE FIRE 77 (F,G) Mrs M Reveley 11-11-0 N Smith
7 412- EMERALD RULER 301 (G,S) J Webber 8-10-13 G McCourt
8 F2-5 STAGE PLAYER 17 (F,G) Miss S Wilton 9-10-13 T Eley (3)
9 5013 HURRICANE TOMMY 85 (V,F,G) A J Wilson 8-10-9 J R Kavanagh
10 0U25 HOWGILL 71 (F,G) R Hollinshead 9-10-7 S Wynne (3)
11 -U24 HANGOVER 56 (V,G,S) R Lee 9-10-3 L Wyer

3-1 Doradus, 9-2 Hangover, 5-1 Sailors Luck, 7-1 Strong Sound, 8-1 Hurricane Tommy, Mutual Trust, 10-1 Emerald Ruler, 12-1 others.

5.20 DONCASTER MARES ONLY OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,506: 2m 110yd) (18)

1 04 CERIDWEN 18 T Greathead 5-11-2 W Humphreys
2 CHAT-UP J Fanshawe 5-11-2 P Smith Eccles (7)
3 43-0 CHINO'S DELIGHT 78 J Wharton 6-11-2 B Dalton
4 DARK HORIZON G Richards 5-11-2 B Harding (5)
5 DARK PHOENIX O Brennan 5-11-2 S O'Donnell (7)
6 3 FLEXWING 87 R Johnson Houghton 5-11-2 G McCourt
7 GLANFORD FOLLY J Thorpe 5-11-2 Annette Baltany (7)
8 GOLD PIGEON B Rothwell 6-11-2 R Supple
9 HALONA S Christian 5-11-2 G Upton
10 004- LOGANI 277 D Nolan 5-11-2 R McGrath (7)
11 RASCALLY Miss L Siddall 5-11-2 A Thornton
12 TWICE A NIGHT D Nicholson 6-11-2 R Massey (5)
13 AMONG ISLANDS Mrs M Reveley 4-10-6 G Lee (5)
14 CROMABOO CROWN P Blockley 4-10-6 P Midgley (3)
15 2 FESTIVE LASSIE 35 T Barron 4-10-6 A Procter (3)
16 HUTCEL BELL M W Easterby 4-10-6 J Driscoll (7)
17 SAGE ROSE Mrs M Sark 4-10-6 Mark Roberts (7)
18 WASSL'S GUEST R Marvin 4-10-6 W Worthington

4-1 Flexwing, 9-2 Twice A Night, 5-1 Among Islands, 6-1 Festive Lassie, 7-1 Chat-Up, 8-1 Dark Horizon, 12-1 Ceridwen, 14-1 others.

☐ *There is a 10am inspection at Plumpton today to assess prospects for Monday's fixture. A spokeswoman said: "The going is heavy and the track is waterlogged in places."*

LINGFIELD PARK

THUNDERER

1.50 Doodies Pool. 2.20 Ultra Beet. 2.50 Dome Patrol. 3.25 Present Situation. 3.55 Croft Pool. 4.30 Princely Gait. 5.00 Carte Blanche.

Newmarket Correspondent: 1.50 Broughtons Turmoil. 4.30 NOTHING DOING (nap). 5.00 Sacred Mirror.

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

1.50 MERLIN SELLING HANDICAP
(Div I: £2,751: 1m) (12 runners)

1 0/15 BROUGHTONS TURMOIL 15 (D,G) W Musson 6-9-12 P McCabe (5) 4
2 0-15 KING PARROT 21 (CD,BF,G) Lord Huntingdon 7-9-9 J Wilkinson (7) 6
3 0-14 LA RESIDENCE 16 (G) Mrs N Macauley 4-9-6 S Sanders (3) 8
4 5535 VELOCE 3 (V,D,F,G) A Bailey 7-9-6 Angela Gallimore (7) 3
5 0-04 DOODIES POOL 7 (CD,G) G L Moore 5-9-3 S Whitworth 10
6 -545 ROYAL ACCLAIM 5 (V,C,D,F,G,S) J Bradley 10-9-1 Amanda Sanders (7) 1
7 0-64 TITANIUM HONDA 25 C Brittain 4-8-12 B Doyle 12
8 -060 MY LIFETIME LADY 7 (F,S) K Ivory 4-8-8 N Carlisle 5
9 -632 SWALLOW RIDGE 23 R O'Sullivan 6-8-2 N Adams 11
10 0650 PAIR OF JACKS 4 (G) D Wilson 5-7-13 N Gwilliams 9
11 -005 CRAFTY CRICKETER 32 R Flower 4-7-9 J Quinn 7
12 -400 WHATONE BELL 14 (B) P Howard 5-7-7 G Bardwell 2

7-2 Broughtons Turmoil, 4-1 Swallow Ridge, 5-1 King Parrot, Royal Acclaim, 6-1 Veloce, 10-1 Titanium Honda, 12-1 others.

2.20 LINGFIELD PARK AWT SPRINT SERIES HANDICAP (Qualifier: 3-Y-O: £3,688: 5f) (7)

1 4111 ULTRA BEET 28 (CD,G) P Haslam 9-7 J Weaver 1
2 530- SALTZ 135 P Dalton 9-4 S Sanders (3) 7
3 4133 DOLLY FACE 10 (CD,F,G) W Muir 8-10 T Quinn 6
4 4-22 C-YER-SIMMIE 10 (D,G) R Hollinshead 8-7 A Garth (5) 2
5 0-14 DAS ISLAND 4 (C,BF,G) J Jenkins 8-5 C Rutter 3
6 -655 JUST JESTING 7 (V) G L Moore 7-11 J Quinn 4
7 6-50 SAXON HEIR 10 (B,D,G) M Usher 7-7 C Adamson (7) 5

15-8 Ultra Beet, 3-1 C-Yer-Simmie, 7-2 Dolly Face, 5-1 Das Island, 8-1 others.

2.50 MERLIN SELLING HANDICAP
(Div II: £2,751: 1m) (11)

1 -460 ZAHRAN 5 (F) J Bradley 4-9-10 S Drowne (5) 11
2 -145 DOME PATROL 16 (B,CD,G) W Muir 4-9-7 J Weaver 3
3 3402 EASTLEIGH 7 (CD,G,S) R Hollinshead 6-9-6 T Ives 8
4 3-30 QUICK MILLION 35 B Meehan 4-9-2 D O'Neill (7) 10
5 00-3 FIABA 7 (D,G) Mrs N Macauley 7-9-1 Amanda Sanders (7) 9
6 5000 BALLYHAYS 7 (B,D,G) J A Harris 6-9-0 S D Williams 6
7 /1-0 BLUE ENSIGN 21 (B,CD,G) H Rowsell 10-8-13 D Gibbs (7) 1
8 3-50 ARRASAS LADY 46 R Flower 5-8-9 J D Smith (5) 4
9 00-4 MRS BIZZYBODY 24 T Naughton 4-8-6 J Quinn 2
10 6-00 THE COUNTRY DANCER 32 K Ivory 5-8-4 N Carlisle 7
11 00-0 THE LEAF SWEEPER 16 M Bolton 4-7-13 C Rutter 5

3-1 Eastleigh, 7-2 Fiaba, 4-1 Zahran, 9-2 Dome Patrol, 5-1 Blue Ensign, 10-1 Mrs Bizzybody, 12-1 Ballyhays, 14-1 others.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Doncaster: 2.10 Mayo Man. 4.50 Hangover. Kempton Park: 4.10 Whispering Steel. Lingfield Park: 2.50 Dome Patrol

3.25 HARRIER LIMITED STAKES (£2,713: 7f) (7)

1 1121 PERILOUS PLIGHT 4 (C,D,F,G) W Muir 4-10-1 J Weaver 4
2 -551 CANARY FALCON 24 (D,G) R O'Sullivan 4-9-11 W Woods 2
3 6-53 APOLLO RED 18 (V,CD,G,S) A Moore 6-9-9 Candy Morris 1
4 1-41 PRESENT SITUATION 7 (CD,G) Lord Huntingdon 4-9-9 A Whelan (5) 7
5 -114 WORDS OF WISDOM 7 (CD,G) C Cyzer 5-9-9 D R McCabe (3) 5
6 53-0 GIGGLESWICK GIRL 7 (C,G) M Channon 4-9-4 R Hughes 3
7 1254 MAID WELCOME 10 (V,CD,F,G) Mrs N Macauley 8-9-4 Amanda Sanders (7) 6

9-4 Present Situation, 3-1 Canary Falcon, 7-2 Perilous Plight, 11-2 Words Of Wisdom, 6-1 Maid Welcome, 14-1 Apollo Red, Giggleswick Girl.

3.55 SPARROWHAWK HANDICAP (£5,446: 6f) (8)

1 1-10 ROCKETEER 17 (B,CD,G) W Muir 4-8-12 J Weaver 5
2 2111 LITTLE IBNR 10 (C,D,G) P Evans 4-9-9 J Stack (5) 8
3 -125 CROFT POOL 26 (C,D,G) J Glover 4-9-4 T Ives 7
4 00-1 LORD SKY 3 (D,F,G,S) A Bailey 4-8-12 (6ex) S Sanders (3) 1
5 1051 SIR TASKER 18 (CD,F,G) J L Harris 7-8-7 R Cochrane 6
6 -113 STOPPES BROW 24 (V,CD,G) G L Moore 3-8-6 S Whitworth 4
7 -308 INVOCATION 30 (C,D,F,G) A Moore 8-8-1 A Whelan (5) 3
8 2131 BOLD EFFORT 11 (CD,G) K Cunningham-Brown 3-7-13 J Quinn 2

3-1 Little Ibnr, 4-1 Lord Sky, 9-2 Bold Effort, Croft Pool, 5-1 Sir Tasker, 7-1 Stoppes Brow, 8-1 Rocketeer, 12-1 Invocation.

4.30 OSPREY HANDICAP (£3,153: 2m) (13)

1 12-6 IBSEN 38 (CD,F,G,S) R Akehurst 7-10-0 T Quinn 13
2 0-31 PRINCELY GAIT 7 (CD,G) C Cyzer 4-10-0 T Ives 4
3 /10- WILD STRAWBERRY 153J (F,G) Miss B Sanders 6-9-11 S Sanders (3) 9
4 2132 ARC BRIGHT 11 (CD,BF,G) R Hollinshead 5-9-11 W Ryan 8
5 305- MARADONNA 163 (S) J White 6-9-8 M Fenton 2
6 006/ DEBACLE 301J (G) B McMath 6-9-2 R Cochrane 3
7 1125 HEAD TURNER 7 (C,G,S) C Wildman 7-8-13 N Adams 10
8 6-51 SHELTERED COVE 11 (CD,F,G) K Cunningham-Brown 4-8-10 J Weaver 6
9 0543 UPPER MOUNT CLAIR 9 C Brittain 5-8-10 B Doyle 5
10 -600 IN BEHIND 11 (CD,F,G) G L Moore 4-7-12 N Varley (5) 1
11 4602 NOTHING DOING 9 W Musson 6-7-11 J Quinn 12
12 -046 RAGTIME SONG 32 (CD,F,G) A Moore 6-7-10 M Baird (5) 11
13 -000 ESPERER 9 J O'Donoghue 5-7-10 N Carlisle 7

5-2 Princely Gait, 3-1 Arc Bright, 7-2 Sheltered Cove, 6-1 Head Turner, 8-1 Ibsen, 10-1 Wild Strawberry, 12-1 Upper Mount Clair, 14-1 others.

5.00 LYNN SPAULDING MEMORIAL MAIDEN STAKES (£3,623: 1m) (10)

1 0/4- ANZIO 225 B Pearce 4-9-0 J Weaver 8
2 -235 KEDWICK 8 (V) P Hedger 6-9-0 Stephen Davies 1
3 50- KINGSFOLD FOUNTAIN 89 M Haynes 4-9-0 S Sanders (3) 7
4 0/65 KING'S GOLD 7 (B) T Jones 5-9-0 R Perham 9
5 00-5 SHERBLU 21 (B) J Ffitch-Heyes 4-9-0 R Cochrane 4
6 00-3 CARTE BLANCHE 21 C Cyzer 4-8-9 T Ives 2
7 33-0 CUT ADRIFT 47 M Channon 4-8-9 R Hughes 5
8 05-0 SACRED MIRROR 5 C Brittain 4-8-9 B Doyle 6
9 35/2 SONG OF YEARS 21 (BF) J Hills 4-8-9 T Quinn 3
10 6530 THORNIWAMA 9 (B) J Bridger 4-8-9 G Bardwell 10

3-1 Song Of Years, 7-2 Sherblu, 4-1 Carte Blanche, 5-1 Anzio, 6-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Lord Huntingdon, 30 winners from 133 runners, 22.6%; C Brittain, 20 from 103, 19.4%; R O'Sullivan, 42 from 251, 16.7%; C Cyzer, 26 from 156, 16.7%; W Muir, 20 from 124, 16.1%.

JOCKEYS: J Weaver, 40 winners from 175 rides, 22.9%; J Stack, 3 from 14, 21.4%; Amanda Sanders, 4 from 20, 20.0%; T Quinn, 49 from 266, 18.4%; R Cochrane, 28 from 174, 16.1%.

EDINBURGH

THUNDERER

1.15 Know-No-No. 1.45 Kambalda Rambler. 2.15 Diwali Dancer. 2.45 Beldine. 3.20 Kenilworth Lad. 3.50 Old Habits. 4.25 Mr President.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) SIS

1.15 PORT SETON MAIDEN HURDLE
(Div I: £2,285: 2m) (10 runners)

1 3040 CANAAN VALLEY 25 D Robertson 7-11-7 F Perratt (5)
2 FINE TUNE Mrs S Bradburne 5-11-7 Mr J Bradburne
3 P0 HOME SAFE 43 T Etherington 5-11-7 F Leahy (5)
4 0 INOVAR 25 C Booth 5-11-7 R Marley
5 5325 KNOW-NO-NO 68 M Hammond 6-11-7 P Niven
6 00-0 PERCY PIT 25 J Johnson 8-11-7 D Gallagher
7 5-30 THISONESFORALICE 42 A Harrison 7-11-7 J Callaghan
8 0 JOE JAGGER 49F Miss M Milligan 4-10-11 T Reed
9 TERVEL 16F J Pearce 4-10-11 J McLaughlin
10 0 CHARLIES DREAM 50F F Lorton 4-10-6 A Linton (7)

9-4 Know-No-No, 11-4 Canaan Valley, 5-1 Thisonesforalice, 6-1 Inovar, 8-1 Tervel, 10-1 Joe Jagger, 14-1 Percy Pit, 16-1 others.

1.45 SCOTTISH RACING CLUB HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,762: 2m 4f) (6)

1 6243 KAMBALDA RAMBLER 18 (B,D,S) C Parker 11-11-10 B Storey
2 13-5 CAPITAL PUNISHMENT 93 (D,F,G) Miss M Milligan 9-11-6 J Callaghan
3 4103 TIMANFAYA 25 (CD,F,G) W Reed 8-11-5 T Reed
4 4562 CHARMING GALE 25 (V,D,F,G,S) Mrs S Bradburne 8-11-3 D Gallagher
5 000- MIAMI BEAR 302 (D,G) R Fancy 9-10-12 R Marley
6 2042 INTEGRITY BOY 23 (B,F,G,S) N Tinkler 8-10-6 P Niven

7-4 Integrity Boy, 5-2 Charming Gale, 4-1 Kambalda Rambler, 5-1 Timanfaya, 8-1 Capital Punishment, 16-1 Miami Bear

2.15 HARCROS HELPING YOU BUILD HANDICAP HURDLE (Qualifier: £2,723: 2m 4f) (5)

1 3414 PLUMBOB 42 (D,G) Mrs S Bradburne 6-11-10 R Murphy (7)
2 11/6 IMHOTEP 22 (F,G) W Cunningham 8-11-8 P Niven
3 4303 MASTER OF TROY 28 (G,S) C Parker 7-11-6 Mr D Parker (5)
4 2252 DIWALI DANCER 23 (S) A Bailey 5-11-4 D Gallagher
5 2-FP JOHNS THE BOY 7 (D,G) N Mason 9-11-3 J Supple (5)

9-4 Diwali Dancer, 5-2 Master Of Troy, 3-1 Imhotep, Plumbob, 10-1 Johns The Boy

2.45 EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY TURF CLUB HOLE IN THE WALL HANDICAP CHASE (£3,048: 2m) (4)

1 4F41 ROC COLOR 74 (B,D,G,S) C Brooks 6-11-10 D Gallagher
2 1P5- WAIT YOU THERE 270 (D,F,G,S) H Alexander 10-11-7 Mr S Swiers
3 2225 BELDINE 22 (D,F,G,S) P Monteith 10-11-2 G Cahill (7)
4 23PP MOSS BEE 77 (D,F) W Reed 8-10-0 T Reed

4-5 Roc Color, 5-2 Beldine, 5-1 Wait You There, 10-1 Moss Bee

3.20 EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY TURF CLUB BA MUG PUNTER NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,853: 3m) (12)

1 -243 KENILWORTH LAD 23 (BF,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 7-11-10 P Niven
2 2035 THE GREEN FOOL 40 (F,G,S) V Thompson 8-11-9 Mr M Thompson
3 P262 BIG MAC 25 (F) G Moore 8-11-6 J Callaghan
4 2333 LEADING PROSPECT 106 (G,S) Mrs J Goodfellow 8-11-4 B Storey
5 5340 ASTRAC TRIO 5 (G) P Monteith 5-10-13 F Leahy (5)
6 501U RUSTY BLADE 25 (CD,G) P Monteith 6-10-12 G Cahill (7)
7 F051 PIT PONY 14 (G,S) D Robertson 11-10-10 R Marley
8 B5UP SWEET CALLERNISH 42 J Johnson 6-10-8 D Gallagher
9 P000 RED TEMPEST 25 (F,G) J Goldie 7-10-5 F Perratt (5)
10 0/65 BASSO PROFUNDO 68 W Reed 8-10-0 T Reed
11 40P0 LA MOLINILLA 25 (F) Mrs K Lamb 12-10-0 Miss S Lamb (7)
12 -04U SKI LADY 36 J Charlton 7-10-0 Mr D Parker (5)

11-4 Kenilworth Lad, 7-2 Big Mac, 4-1 Leading Prospect, 6-1 Pit Pony, 8-1 Rusty Blade, 12-1 The Green Fool, Basso Profundo, 16-1 others

3.50 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (Qualifier: £2,656: 2m 4f) (12)

1 0 CHARLVIC 66 W Cunningham 5-11-0 R Marley
2 2-3 DOWN THE FELL 35 J Johnson 6-11-0 F Leahy (5)
3 5/04 MASTER FLASHMAN 25 Mrs M Reveley 6-11-0 P Niven
4 044 OLD HABITS 22 J Eyre 6-11-0 O Pears
5 PARDIBARLE V Thompson 7-11-0 Mr M Thompson
6 0 PERSIAN GRANGE 36 D Lamb 5-11-0 Mr A Manners (7)
7 50 ROCHARISARE 43 T Etherington 6-11-0 R Storey
8 00P0 THAT'S SPECIAL 37 R Harris 6-11-0 F Perratt (5)
9 22/F TOLMIN 14 G Moore 7-11-0 J Callaghan
10 0-P UNIVERSAL MAGIC 116 C Brooks 6-11-0 D Gallagher
11 -051 YOUANDI 14 (S) L Lungo 5-11-0 T Reed
12 0663 MEADOWLECK 14 W Young 6-10-9 R Murphy (7)

9-4 Youandi, 11-4 Master Flashman, 7-2 Old Habits, 6-1 Down The Fell, 7-1 Universal Magic, 20-1 Meadowleck, 25-1 others.

4.25 PORT SETON MAIDEN HURDLE
(Div II: £2,274: 2m) (10)

1 0404 GALLARDINI 61 B Rothwell 6-11-7 J Supple (5)
2 JONES Mrs J Goodfellow 5-11-7 B Storey
3 6-50 MR PRESIDENT 68 C Brooks 6-11-7 D Gallagher
4 0025 PAGLIACCIO 25 M Hammond 7-11-7 P Niven
5 06 PETOSKI BAY 35 J Johnson 5-11-7 S Taylor (7)
6 4225 SALINGER 15F J Parkes 7-11-7 T Reed
7 00 STRONG ACCOUNT 68 J Johnson 6-11-7 F Leahy (5)
8 6-06 TROOPING 21 M Meagher 6-11-7 J Callaghan
9 630F VAL DE RAMA 81 Denys Smith 6-11-7 P Waggott (5)
10 4005 EMERALD CHARM 14 J Charlton 7-11-2 B Storey

7-2 Pagliaccio, 4-1 Gallardini, 9-2 Trooping, 6-1 Val De Rama, 7-1 others

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: N Tinkler, 8 winners from 27 runners, 29.6%; Mrs M Reveley, 17 from 61, 27.9%; C Parker, 9 from 37, 24.3%; M Hammond, 20 from 93, 21.5%; G Moore, 9 from 43, 20.9%; J Eyre, 3 from 17, 17.6%.

JOCKEYS: Mr S Swiers, 5 winners from 13 rides, 38.5%; Mr D Parker, 4 from 19, 21.1%; J Callaghan, 9 from 46, 19.6%; P Niven, 13 from 67, 19.4%; T Reed, 16 from 88, 18.2%; R Marley, 5 from 29, 17.2%.

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Haydock Park

Going: heavy

2.00 (2m 4f ch) 1, The Boiler White (D Meade, 9-4); 2, Primitive Singer (11-2). Dantes Sun 8-11 fav (ur) 3 ran. Only two finished. NR: Countess Veruschka. 20l. T Thomson Jones. Tote: £3.10. DF: £4.50. CSF: £8.72.

2.30 (2m hdle) 1, Sparkling Cone (R Dunwoody, 9-2); 2, Ingletonian (100-30 fav); 3, Forbidden Time (5-1). 9 ran. 5l, 10l. M Pipe. Tote: £6.40; £2.30, £1.50, £2.60. DF: £10.60. Trio: £15.50. CSF: £20.60. Tricast: £74.28.

3.00 (2m hdle) 1, Bokaro (G Bradley, 5-4); 2, Pridwell (Evens fav); 3, Salwan (7-1). 3 ran. NR: Trying Again. 2½l, 10l. C Brooks. Tote: £1.90. DF: £1.10. CSF: £2.65.

3.30 (3m ch) 1, Cache Fleur (R Dunwoody, 100-30); 2, Goodshot Rich (16-1); 3, Romany King (7-1). Celtic Prince 2-1 fav (pu). 6 ran. 8l, 12l. M Pipe. Tote: £3.20; £1.70, £4.10. DF: £31.80. CSF: £37.82.

4.00 (3m hdle) 1, Brambleberry (Richard Guest, 11-4); 2, Bend Sable (5-2); 3, Skittle Alley (16-1). Saint Ciel 13-8 fav. 5 ran. 4l, 15l. Mrs S Smith. Tote: £3.40; £1.90, £2.30. DF: £4.90. CSF: £9.42.

4.30 (3m ch) 1, Extra Special (Capt A Ogden, 5-4 fav); 2, Vague Influence (10-1); 3, Ifeee (12-1). 7 ran. NR: Final Chant. 8l, 8l. G Richards. Tote: £2.00; £1.70, £3.60. DF: £9.00. CSF: £13.58.

5.00 (2m hdle) 1, Seachange (J F Titley, 10-1); 2, Sky Run (4-5 fav); 3, Boro Hill (10-1). 9 ran. 6l, dist. M Wilkinson. Tote: £11.30; £2.50, £1.30, £1.70. DF: £7.40. Trio: £57.20. CSF: £18.57.

Placepot: £177.00. Quadpot: £54.30.

Kempton Park

Going: heavy

2.20 (2m 5f hdle) 1, Bear Claw (J Osborne, 100-30); 2, Funetto (8-1); 3, Matching Green (16-1). Idiot's Lady 5-4 fav. 11 ran. NR: Oats N Barley, Poinciana. 15l, 3½l. O Sherwood. Tote: £4.00; £1.60, £1.20, £3.40. DF: £13.50. Trio: £49.70. CSF: £27.78.

2.50 (3m ch) 1, Cool Relation (Mr A Phillips, 7-1); 2, Teaplanter (3-1); 3, Double Silk (4-9 fav). 4 ran. NR: Avostar, Synderborough Lad. 25l, 20l. D Caro. Tote: £7.20. DF: £8.80. CSF: £23.40.

3.20 (3m ch) 1, The Frog Prince (J Osborne, 6-4 fav: Richard Evans's nap); 2, Shamarphil (14-1); 3, Castigliero (9-1). 7 ran. 9l, 10l. N Gaselee. Tote: £2.00; £1.80, £3.30. DF: £11.70. CSF: £18.17.

3.50 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Big Matt (M A Fitzgerald, Evens fav); 2, Lackendara (2-1); 3, Willow Gale (9-1). 4 ran. ½l, dist. N Henderson. Tote: £1.60. DF: £2.30. CSF: £3.06.

4.20 (2m hdle) 1, Hops And Pops (A Maguire, 2-1 fav); 2, Who Is Equiname (11-2); 3, More Dash Thancash (8-1). 9 ran. 25l, 20l. R Alner. Tote: £3.00; £1.60, £1.60, £2.20. DF: £8.30. Trio: £13.40. CSF: £12.62.

4.50 (2m 5f hdle) 1, Fired Earth (J Osborne, 12-1); 2, Jadidh (3-1 fav); 3, Landed Gentry (7-2). 10 ran. NR: Royal Piper. 1l, 1l. J Fanshawe. Tote: £7.90; £2.00, £1.60, £2.30. DF: £25.60. Trio: £30.20. CSF: £45.54. Tricast: £142.43.

Jackpot: £14,261.60.
Placepot: £439.80.
Quadpot: £7.60.

Southwell

Going: standard

1.40 (1m) 1, At The Savoy (Kimberley Hart, 2-1 fav); 2, Hi Penny (12-1); 3, Tremolante (10-1). 9 ran. Nk, sh hd. T Barron. Tote: £3.10; £1.60, £2.80, £2.20. DF: £22.90. Trio: £75.50. CSF: £25.66. Tricast: £190.11.

2.10 (1m) 1, Glenvally (C Scudder, 5-2 fav); 2, Coven Moon (6-1); 3, Uckerby Lad (6-1). 8 ran. 1½l, ¾l. B Murray. Tote: £2.20; £1.90, £2.00, £1.20. DF: £10.40. CSF: £17.51. Tricast: £75.91.

2.40 (7f) 1, No Submission (Dean McKeown, 13-8 fav); 2, Battle Colours (5-2); 3, Rocky Waters (85-40). 5 ran. 2½l, 3l. D Chapman. Tote: £2.30; £1.70, £1.60. DF: £2.20. CSF: £6.19.

3.10 (7f) 1, Flowing Ocean (R Cochrane, 3-1); 2, Orthorhombus (14-1); 3, Bellemnetto (16-1). Twin Creeks 5-2 fav. 8 ran. 5l, 1½l. Miss G Kelleway. Tote: £5.00; £1.90, £2.60, £4.80. DF: £27.60. CSF: £38.47. Tricast: £533.74.

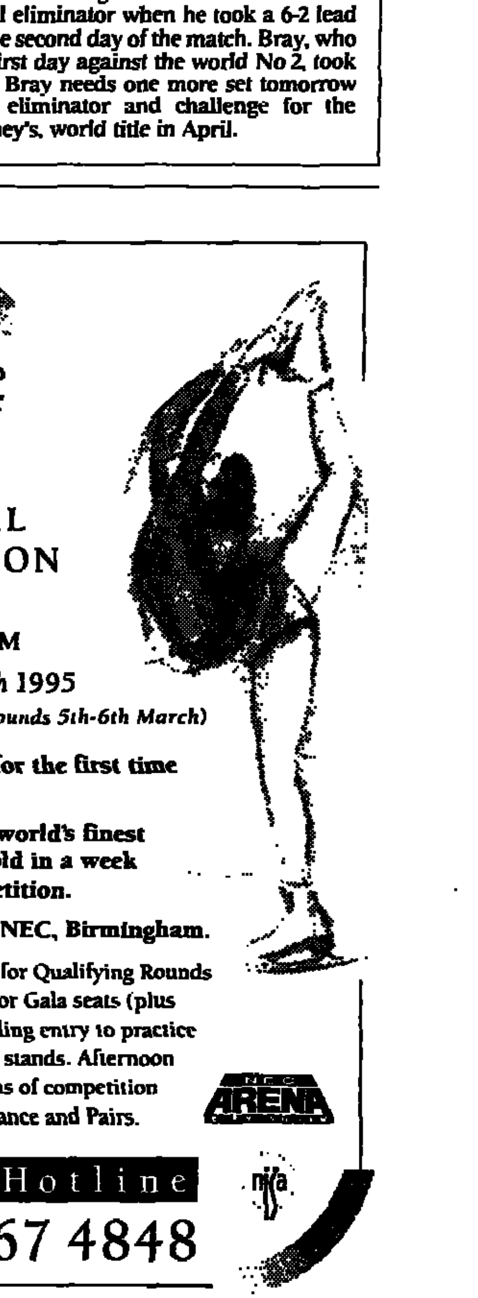
3.40 (6f) 1, Lady Roxanne (D Harrison, 8-1); 2, Bella Parkes (5-6 fav); 3, Christian Flight (9-1). 7 ran. Sh hd, 1½l. Lord Huntingdon. Tote: £8.60; £3.00, £1.40. DF: £6.20. CSF: £14.97.

4.10 (1m 3f) 1, Wisdom (T Quinn, 2-1 fav); 2, Poly Road (10-1); 3, Recovery Lad (7-1). 12 ran. 5l, 3½l. P Cole. Tote: £2.80; £1.20, £2.10, £3.20. DF: £7.00. Trio: £31.00. CSF: £23.07.

4.40 (1m 4f) 1, Mr Bean (M Fenton, 5-2 jt-fav); 2, Modest Hope (5-1); 3, Winn's Pride (3-1). How's It Goin 5-2 jt-fav. 7 ran. NR: Telephus. 12l, 2l. K Burke. Tote: £2.30; £2.10, £2.10. DF: £7.30. CSF: £14.93. Tricast: £35.48

Placepot: £238.50. Quadpot: £37.30.

WORLD FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS BIRMINGHAM



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Champions to test Everton's hopes of survival



Ince: complete

BY PETER BALL

GOODISON Park, where Manchester United are to be found visiting Everton, and Ewood Park are the venues for today's stage of the two-horse FA Carling Premiership race. They are also under the spotlight in the bigger competition to avoid relegation.

Everton are still in the thick of things at the bottom of the Premiership and Norwich, Blackburn's visitors, if not in immediate danger, are, on recent form, in some peril of being drawn into the fray. Everton's results of late have been encouraging and, against Norwich in the FA Cup last Saturday, they also played some good football. However, after their disastrous start to the season, they have had to run full pelt to draw level in the race to survive.

Their defeat at Leeds United on Wednesday leaves them with still some way to go before safety is assured. To compound matters, the game deprived them of Paul Rideout for a minumum of four weeks, possibly six, a sad blow with the striker in fine form, scoring 14 goals in 22 games. Graham Stuart will replace him, a hamstring injury permitting.

With United in their present mood, victory is a tall order for Everton, as Royle admitted: "United are a terrific side, they were awesome against Leeds. I think they are the best side of modern times. They have speed, power and aggression. They have tremendous strength in all departments and they are capable of doing the double double.

"Keane and Ince are great examples of what I mean by 'dogs of war'. They are there for you on a dark, dark night in January, not just in the sunshine of August. Ince is probably the most complete footballer in Britain.

"Yet, having said all that, nobody is perfect and they won't go through the rest of the season unbeaten. I remember at Oldham we beat them when they were on the run-in to the championship two years ago and this Everton side is better equipped to do that than Oldham were."

If United do lose, it will be an important three points for Everton — and almost equally so for Blackburn, who could then take their lead back up to five points by beating Norwich. Blackburn may have Stuart Ripley back, Ripley coming on as substitute on Wednesday without further repercussions on his injured ankle. Two years ago, Norwich lost 7-1 at Blackburn; on the form of the last eight days, a similar scoreline would come as no surprise.

Norwich are slipping dangerously, but they still have some margin for error with Coventry, Chelsea, Manchester City and Southampton, who have drawn nine of their last 11 matches — including seven in a row — also perilously placed above the relegation zone. City at last halted their run of four points from ten games by beating Ipswich, which took them up to twelfth, but a home defeat by Leeds today could leave the noose still hovering over Maine Road once again.

With Rösler and Beagrie suspended and Flitcroft injured, Horton has to make do and mend. Leeds have Palmer and Deane available again after suspension, but with Yeboah announcing his presence with the winning goal on Wednesday, Deane may not regain his place.

Coventry meet Leicester and Southampton go to Ipswich, matches they need to win to keep clear of the bottom four. Leicester's recovery from 4-1 down at Villa Park on Wednesday spoke volumes for their spirit.

Ipswich, who went bottom in midweek, are, if anything, in even worse shape, although the return of Ian Marshall for his first game since October to form a new striking partnership with Alex Mathie, yesterday's £500,000 signing from Newcastle, will provide a ray of optimism.

Chelsea go to West Ham United for one of the three London derbies. Crystal Palace against Arsenal will be a centre of attention. After the win over Forest in midweek, Stewart Houston will be eager to start a run going to press his claims as George Graham's permanent replacement. He has named an unchanged team.

Thomson delivers winning ripostes in style

BY GORDON ALLAN

ANDY THOMSON, the holder, reached the final of the Churchill Insurance world indoor bowls singles championship by defeating Tony Allcock 5-7, 7-6, 6-7, 7-5, 7-4 in an absorbing four-hour match of high quality, at the Preston Guild Hall yesterday.

Allcock was the champion in 1986 and 1987 and he was fired up to try to beat Thomson, who has a good record against him in the singles. Thomson was a set down twice, but he is a steely character and his game was in excellent order, apart from two or three drives that flew past their target.

The crucial point was that Thomson bowled better lead bowls throughout, frequently forcing Allcock into conversion shots. He played these brilliantly at times, but the resultant pressure must have affected him.

The match lasted 43 ends — a record in this event, beating the 41 played by Ian Schuback in his defeat of David Holt in 1992. Both the opening sets went to ten ends, with Allcock saving a set lie four times in the second.

Allcock took the lead again after a tight third set. Thomson won the fourth with a close double on the last end. In the decider, a drive went wrong for Allcock, presenting Thomson with three shots for a 6-2 advantage. Allcock twice saved a match lie before Thomson could be sure of his place in the final.

"That was my best form of this championship," Thomson said. "I've had another look at my delivery and it's paid off."

Allcock, in genial mood despite his defeat, said: "I'm playing my best bowls of the season after a good rest. All I can say is that, whoever wins, I hope that the final is as good as our match today."

Allcock played two of the finest shots of the championship at the climax of his quarter-final against Hugh Duff on Thursday. Duff, after losing the first two sets, squared the match and had a match lie at 6-5 in the fifth, with one bowl just in front of the jack and another just behind — an almost ideal position. Almost but not quite.

Allcock responded to the challenge by drawing, on the back hand, two magnificent bowls inside those of Duff, who then missed with a final despairing drive.

"What can I say?" Duff said. "Tony played two wonderful shots. I couldn't believe it."

Allcock, as well he might, said that he could not recall playing two better bowls. "Hugh could hardly have played better," he said. "I'm not surprised if he feels gutted."

Results, page 43

Scotland forward emerges from the shadows to sparkle in Goodison Park revival

Rough edge conceals diamond in Ferguson

BY PETER BALL

Manchester United have lived with the glories and excesses of Eric Cantona, the French *enfant terrible*, for two years. Today, they meet the Scottish version for the first time, Duncan Ferguson offering a threat to their ambitions at Goodison Park this afternoon.

The similarities between the Frenchman and the Scot are striking. Yesterday, with rare symmetry, both were due before the beaks, Cantona meeting the Football Association, Ferguson, 23, to make the acquaintance of Merseyside magistrates for the first time, having been stopped, and later charged with drink-driving, the night before his first Merseyside derby in October.

That would appear to place him squarely in the grand, if declining, tradition of Scottish footballers who believe that football is a good excuse for a party. But, also in that tradition, the party did not interfere with his contribution on the field, Ferguson playing a key role as Everton signalled the beginning of their revival under Joe Royle by beating Liverpool.

Even if yesterday was his first scheduled appearance before the bench in Liverpool (he was not required to attend and the case was adjourned until March 17), his record in Scotland makes Cantona look quiet, even meek, by comparison. The big Scot has a charge of assault facing him in May for allegedly head-butting John McStay, of Raith Rovers.

A past record of confrontations from his early days at Dundee United does not suggest a hapless victim. There is little doubt, however, that his size — 6ft 4in — and his reputation, made him a target for would-be hard men.

"The environment didn't help him," Walter Smith, the Rangers manager who bought and sold him for £4 million, said. "I'm not saying he was innocent but, especially at Rangers, anything he did was always big news.

"Players get provoked in Glasgow more than in England, particularly someone as big as him," Craig Brown, the Scotland manager, who brought Ferguson back into the squad for the game in Greece in December, said. "And sometimes it needs a special breed to walk away from it."

Perhaps Smith and Brown were right. So far there has been little untoward since he came south of the border, apart from the court hearing and his sending-off at Highbury after a spat with John Jensen.

Joe Royle, the Everton manager, said at the time of the sending-off: "I don't have any trouble with his temperament — just with his maturity." Indeed, Royle insists that his most expensive signing has been "a pussy-cat" at Goodison Park. "He is very amiable, very popular in the dressing-room."

> 'In reality he is just a big daft lad with no real malice in him'

Royle had no hesitation in paying £4 million to Rangers for his centre forward for, along with the propensity for trouble off the pitch, he is an important influence on it. Surprisingly with his reputation, he is not in the Joe Jordan or Andy Gray mould of rumbustious leaders.

"I wouldn't describe him as lazy, but he is economical with his running," Brown said. "He's not been a prolific scorer, but he creates goals, if you are an opponent you cannot ignore him and he causes havoc in the penalty area. Defenders attending to him creates more room for Rideout [Paul, the Everton forward]."

Rideout, who was in the richest form of his career, with 14 goals from 22 games until his injury at Leeds United on Wednesday, is the first to admit Ferguson's part in his success since his arrival on loan from Rangers. But when Royle replaced Mike Walker his first impressions were not favourable.

"From what I'd seen of him in training I wasn't impressed," Royle said. "He looked disinterested, lazy, indifferent to the game. But then the first game, against Liverpool, and he was transformed, a passionate, talented player who made a major contribution to us winning.

"There is a group of outstanding strikers around at the moment, but I think Ferguson has the potential to be the best of the lot. He is good in the air, but he has excellent touch and pace that people don't realise."

Such praise and expectation have accompanied Ferguson since he emerged as a teenager at Dundee United. The move to Rangers should have been the start of a great career, but injuries — to him and to his natural forward partner, Ally McCoist — interrupted his progress, and his difficulties off the field made a move desirable.

For Scotland, too, he is longer on promise than on performance so far. There was a dazzling 45-minute spell against Germany, including an overhead kick, replayed incessantly on television, that Brown testified "would have been the goal of the decade for Scotland". But the German goalkeeper matched it with an arcing save, and Ferguson's only international goal at any level was in an under-21 match against Malta.

"The trouble with Duncan is that everything is in extremes," one Scottish colleague said. "He's either seen as a deplorable rascal or the great white hope of Scottish football. In reality he's a big daft lad, with no real malice in him, who has great potential."

STEVE MORTON



Ferguson, whose displays have justified the faith of Royle, the Everton manager, since his £4 million move from Rangers

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

The hand below won the Journalist's Prize for the best declarer play at the Malta International Bridge Festival last week.

Dealer West North-South game. Match pointed pairs

	♠QJ72 ♥KQ752 ♦AK ♣Q5	
♠AK43 ♥J1084 ♦Q732 ♣8	N W E S	♠10965 ♥A9 ♦985 ♣10732
	♠8 ♥63 ♦J1064 ♣AKJ954	

Contract: 3NT by South. Lead: two of diamonds

South (James Forder) played in 3NT after North had opened One Heart. After winning the first diamond the declarer played the king of hearts from dummy, to set up his ninth trick. East won and returned the nine of diamonds. After taking the diamond the declarer played off six rounds of clubs.

West had the nightmare hand — guards in all the other suits. His first four discards were easy: two spades, a heart and a diamond, coming down to ♠A K ♥J 10 ♦Q ♣—.

On the fifth club East threw a spade. The sixth round of clubs now turned the screw on West. Interpreting East's failure to discard his small diamond on the fifth club as evidence that East held the jack of diamonds, West discarded the queen of diamonds.

The declarer was now able to cash the jack and ten of diamonds; on the last diamond West was down to three cards, ♠A ♥J 10; dummy had ♠Q ♥K x. Whatever West discarded allowed dummy to score the last two tricks. The declarer made 12 tricks in all.

The ending was a so-called "repeating squeeze", and in truth developed more or less automatically. If West had known the declarer had the jack of diamonds, it would have been better for him to discard a spade honour on the sixth club. In that case the squeeze would have only been worth one trick. The problem with letting the queen of diamonds go was that it left the declarer on play to continue the squeeze. It is a well-known principle of defence against sqeeze play — unguard suits held over you in preference to suits held under you.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Veteran's victory

Viktor Korchnoi, the 63-year-old veteran of the Pan Pacific tournament in San Francisco, scored a dashing victory against the up-and-coming American master Maurice Ashley.

Selecting a somewhat unusual variation of the Caro-Kann Defence Korchnoi conducted the late opening in original fashion, developing one rook laterally and avoiding castling. Korchnoi's final sacrificial onslaught left White facing inevitable checkmate.

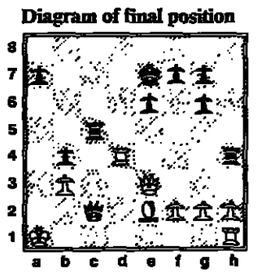
White: Maurice Ashley
Black: Viktor Korchnoi
Pan Pacific, San Francisco, February 1995

Caro-Kann defence

1	e4	c6
2	d4	d5
3	Nd2	dxe4
4	Nxe4	Bf5
5	Ng3	Bg6
6	Nf3	Nf6
7	Ne5	Nbd7
8	Nxg6	hxg6
9	Bd3	Qc7
10	Qf3	e6
11	Be3	c5
12	dxc5	Bxc5
13	Bxc5	Nxc5
14	Bb5+	Ke7
15	0-0-0	Rh4
16	Be2	Rc8
17	Kb1	b5
18	Qe3	b4
19	Rd2	Nce4
20	Nxe4	Nxe4
21	Rd4	Qxc2+
22	Ka1	Nd2
23	b3	Nxb3+
24	axb3	Rc5

White resigns

Diagram of final position



Korchnoi's move 22 ... Nd2 was brilliant. If White plays 23 Rxd2 then 23 ... Qc1+ 24 Rxc1 Rxc1 is checkmate. Alternatively after 22 ... Nd2 23 Qxd2 Rxd4 24 Qxd4 Qc1+ again leads to checkmate.

Gulko leads

After three rounds in San Francisco, the American Grandmaster Boris Gulko leads with 2.5 points. Britain's John Nunn shares second with Viktor Korchnoi on 2.

Kosten wins

The English Grandmaster Tony Kosten has shared first prize in the blitz chess tournament in Aubervilliers, France. Half a point behind was the chess computer Novag W Chess.

Sadler success

Grandmaster Matthew Sadler, from Chatham, Kent, has won outright first prize in the Grand Prix de Cannes with 7 points out of 9.

Winning Move, Weekend, page 21

Anglers in line for fresh challenge

In the second of two articles, **Brian Clarke** examines the impact of some severe flooding this winter on the coming fishing season

It may seem to be trivialising disaster to discuss the effects of the recent floods on angling, but even those fishermen who were themselves affected will soon have to give the matter some thought. The impact of this winter on rivers is likely to have been profound.

Life for the smaller creatures under water when a river rages in flood can only be imagined and the losses among insect colonies must be appalling. Fish, however, are well able to look after themselves. They shelter behind stones and congregate in bays and sidle into the mouths and lower reaches of side streams. When the water is over the banks, it is not uncommon for coarse fishermen to make hay of a different kind where normally only grass is to be found.

So it is not the well-being of fish that is a common concern for the angler: it is their whereabouts once the water has subsided. Many places that produced good bags last year may this year produce nothing. A shady corner which last year harboured a corker may this year hold only minnows. Reaches which before the floods held nothing may now be teeming.

The reason is that the needs of fish remain the same after a flood as before it and that a flood, if it changes the topography of a river bed, changes the places in which those fishy needs can be met. The needs of specific fish vary from species to species but the essential requirements remain constant. They are the universal needs of everything that lives: Food, security and the maximum degree of convenience and comfort that the first two will allow.

Before a flood, a territorial fish like a trout will have been living in a place which offered these features in the most desirable combination that the fish could defend. After a flood it will return to its former lie if it has been unchanged or seek out an alternative if it has been destroyed or made less attractive. If the lie has been significantly improved by the action of the flood water, the fish may find itself ousted by a bigger specimen than itself.

There are several characteristics of a trout lie in a river and high water can affect them all. Knowing what these are is the key to understanding how fish populations in a given reach may have been redistributed.

> 'This year, fish are not going to be where the angler last found them'

For example, when a river floods, the currents which boil into the outside of a bend can cause the bank there to collapse. What may have been a wonderful lie for a trout — a steep bank on the outside of a bend is a favourite because the current creates deep water there and carries much food — may be spoiled or made even better.

It will have been improved if the bank falls in blocks of earth that disrupt the flow and create comfortable currents where additional fish can live, ideally out of sight of one another. It will have been made less attractive if the bank has simply slid into the river, creating a steady slope towards the bottom some way out. Sloping banks rarely provide the clearly defined nooks and crannies and the food-funnelling currents which trout need to hold them in brisk water.

A deep scoop in the riverbed that offered sanctuary to a fish before a flood may have become filled in with rolling gravels and falling debris and the fish which once lived there will have moved. Conversely, reaches which may have become covered with silt over the years may have been scoured clean and made attractive.

Gravel banks are often bodily shifted in heavy waters. If they have been levelled, fish that were once found in that area will have been dispersed; if they are created or enlarged so that currents sweep around them and channel food into thin, tight lines on either side, fish may be found that were not present before.

Familiar in-stream furniture, like sunken logs, may be swept away in high water but new logs or undercut trees may be added, albeit in different places. The value of such obstructions to fish and to fishermen will depend on where they are.

If a log has been beached in shallow water, its value may be negligible. If it has fallen into a moderate current that formerly sustained a fish or two, then more fish are likely to gather because of the cover it provides and the insect life that will be generated around it. If an obstruction is deposited in fast water, it is likely to attract fish on its upstream edge because the water and the food it carries will have been abruptly slowed; and again, fish will be found where the current sweeps around the sides to create narrow, food-rich eddies.

All manner of fish love weeds because of the food and security they provide, but weeds are vulnerable to floods because each type depends in part on different water speeds for its existence. Slow-water weeds are often swept away and sometimes cannot grow again because the silt on which their root systems depended, has gone.

And so, on many waters this year, fish are not going to be where the angler last found them and tracking them down will be the first of the challenges. Understanding each fish's needs and the kinds of places that offer them, is going to be the key. Catching the fish, of course, is quite another matter.

Thomson delivers winning ripostes in style

Ireland trio must miss English cup contests

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

NEVER a week passes without the demands of international rugby impinging on the domestic game. Today it is Irish squad requirements that draw Nick Popplewell, Simon Geoghegan and Jim Staples away from Pilkington Cup quarter-finals for Wasps, Bath and Harlequins against Exeter, Northampton and Wakefield respectively.

Most of the England squad will be in action today, but one member is now out of the picture until next season. Simon Shaw, the Bristol lock, will have an operation today on his damaged medial knee ligaments and cannot expect to be back in full training for six months. He will miss the World Cup, leaving Nigel Redman to withstand the maturing challenge of Newcastle Gosforth's Gareth Archer.

Not one of the four clubs expected to appear in Monday's semi-final cup draw — Bath, Leicester, Wasps and Harlequins — is at full strength. Leicester, for example, play at Sale without Rory Underwood, whose RAF duties have taken him to Scotland all week, while injuries remove Rob Andrew and Jason Leonard from Wasps and Harlequins respectively.

That offers only limited encouragement to their opponents: Leicester believe Steve Hackney is playing on the wing as well as anyone while Wasps prefer Chris Braithwaite at stand-off half ahead of the divisional player, Guy Gregory.

Perhaps the most vulnerable are Harlequins, who have ongoing league worries and are also without the injured wing, Spencer Bromley. Two years ago, Wakefield went to The Stoop in a fourth-round cup-tie and were 18 points down before they could draw breath; now, with Richard Szabo restored to the front row, they will be more aware.

Northampton, without the injured England A wing, Harvey Thorneycroft, can take a relaxed view of their tie with Bath. It offers relief from their desperate pursuit of league points and Tim Rodber, the captain, said: "We expect a good team performance so that we can go on to the critical league match with Bristol with improved confidence."

None of the romance of the cup there, nor for Exeter, who lost 76-0 at the same stage to Leicester two years ago and may fear another such beating from Wasps. The London club rests Nick Greenstock but anticipates that Dean Ryan, its captain, will have recovered from a calf injury.

But what of Sale, underdogs on their own Heywood Road pitch against Leicester but capable on their day of upsetting the best? "They are considerably better than when we played them in the league," Tony Russ, Leicester's director of rugby, said.

Back in October the Tigers won 37-20, but Sale have been strengthened by the addition of Chris Yates and John Fowler. "We have to impose our game on them," Russ said, "and make sure we pick up the runners working off Paul Turner. You can't defend against Turner in the conventional sense, but we must be aware of what he brings out of other players."

Sale have gently hinted to Garin Jenkins, the Wales hooker, that he could contemplate a rugby development post in the Manchester area but Jenkins has assured Swansea that he will stay. It will be a relief for the 1994 Heineken League champions, who are struggling to stay with the pace this season and will want to keep Newport at arm's length today.

All three Gwent clubs threatened with relegation face battles against the first division's leaders: Abertillery can expect little joy at Pontypridd while Pontypool, bottom, play Cardiff, the leaders.





Two tough scrum halves, Maunder, of Exeter, left, and Scully, of Wakefield, have provided loyal and committed services to their clubs

Exeter and Wakefield relish challenge

David Hands looks at the problems two ambitious lower-order teams face in trying to raise their status

Cup competitions have a habit of opening the door on the sunny uplands of opportunity, only to bang them shut with a mirthless laugh. In no sport is this more true than rugby union, where enthusiasm and motivation rarely compensate for the extra pace and physique possessed by first-division players.

Thus today Exeter, of the third division, and Wakefield, of the second, find themselves swimming with the sharks in the quarter-finals of the Pilkington Cup against, respectively, Wasps and Harlequins. Fortune has favoured the brave so far, though Wakefield might contend that by beating Gloucester in the fourth round they had already earned their advance, but surely it will not take them further.

It is a glimpse, however, of what both clubs seek: since the decline and subsequent merger of Headingley, Wakefield have represented Yorkshire rugby's best hope of a first-division presence. Exeter, too, have plans to take advantage of the hinterland of rugby in Devon and Cornwall, though their position at the foot of the third division is far from encouraging.

So populous a rugby area as Yorkshire should have a first-division club; the enthusiasm for the game in Cornwall and Devon should be harnessed more effectively, but it has not happened. The reasons lie partly in rugby union's own haphazard history, partly by the sort of coincidence that takes a Jack Rowell to Bath rather than to Bristol, or allows a Chalkie White to develop at Leicester.

It has also to do with opportunity. The West Country may be regarded more as a retirement area than as a place of commercial change; unemployment is a fact of life in Yorkshire and though rugby offers concomitant career breakthroughs, young players go elsewhere to find them. Few employers these days will "carry" workers who have half an eye on a sporting hobby.

Players, too, are impatient: they receive recognition early, in representative schools, student and under-21 teams, and are encouraged to look for a first-division club. Thus Wakefield see local products such as Tim Stimpson, David Baldwin, John and Rob Liley, Diccon Edwards, Jonathan Sleightholme, playing elsewhere. Even the loyal Dave Scully, the England B scrum half who was one of the heroes of England's World Cup-winning sevens team two years ago, has signed registration forms for Sale next season.

"We always seem to be in the right place at the wrong time," Jim Coulson, a Wakefield spokesman, said. Top of their division at a time when promotion was suspended, for example; second in the second division this season, but a long way adrift of Saracens when only one promotion place is available. "We do struggle to find worthwhile careers to attract players, though we are writing to employers asking them to consider the qualifications we know certain players can offer," Coulson said.

Too many Yorkshire clubs are chasing too few players of quality, though Wakefield have tried to underline their ambition by making fixtures with as many first-division clubs as possible. Only Bath and Bristol are absent.

Exeter's hopes have been undermined by the absence before Christmas of Andy Green, their leading points-scorer. "We have a management set-up geared to second-division rugby, which is the short-term aim," John Lockyer, the club spokesman, said. "But the feeder clubs mostly operate a long way below national-division level and the youngsters who come to us need developing."

Exeter have used the money earned by their cup run two years ago, establishing their under-21 side. Already three or four players have emerged in the senior XV, alongside Green and the splendidly committed Andy Maunder, the scrum half now in his sixth successive year as captain.

"We are in a traditional rugby area and, for the first time last summer, we recruited from Cornwall," Lockyer said. Thus Plymouth, where the Albion remain low in the fourth division, has been bypassed and Exeter seek to build on an already healthy relationship with the local university. The 5,000-strong crowd expected at the County Ground today will include visitors from Cornwall and Dorset and create a greater realisation of the possibilities of a fourth force in the West Country.

All Blacks build-up hit by injuries

By David Hands

THE close season has been less than peaceful for New Zealand: pre-occupied with beating off rugby league raids and rationalising financial aspects of their own code, their leading players gathered for the third World Cup training camp this weekend minus eight injured players.

Laurie Mains, the All Blacks coach, and Eddie Tonks, chairman of the New Zealand Rugby Football Union council, are at daggers drawn over a match this week that left five internationals injured. The "friendly" between Auckland and their neighbours, North Harbour, was designed to erase memories of the sordid national championship final of last year that resulted in a rash of dismissals and suspensions.

The concept was supported by Tonks ("You can't wrap players in cotton wool") and opposed by Mains, who claimed that the World Cup management group had decided against participation in the game by All Blacks: "It is hard to get across just how much damage that game has done to our cup campaign," Mains said. "This camp was so crucial for we planned to bring together all the loose ends."

The casualties include Sean Fitzpatrick, the All Blacks captain, and the experienced flanker, Michael Jones, while others unable to contribute actively at the training camp are the Brooke brothers, Zinzan and Robin, and the North Harbour trio, Walter Little, Blair Larsen and Eric Rush.

Auckland were already weakened for their entry into the Super 10 tournament next weekend, against Orange Free State in Bloemfontein, because of work commitments involving Fitzpatrick and Olo Brown, the prop. Their plight is made worse because of the suspensions affecting the Brooke brothers and Richard Fromont, the lock.

Brian Lima, who retreated from a move to rugby league at the eleventh hour this month, has been included in Western Samoa's 44-strong preliminary World Cup squad.

COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
** denotes all-ticket match*
pools coupon numbers in brackets

FA Carling Premiership

( ) Blackburn v Norwich
(1) Coventry v Leicester
( ) Crystal Palace v Arsenal
( ) * Everton v Manchester Utd
(2) Ipswich v Southampton
( ) Manchester City v Leeds
( ) Newcastle v Aston Villa
( ) Sheff Wednesday v Liverpool
( ) * Tottenham v Wimbledon
(3) West Ham v Chelsea

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Blackburn	29	20	5	4	63	26	65
Man Utd	29	19	6	4	53	21	63
Newcastle	28	14	9	5	47	30	51
Liverpool	27	13	9	5	46	22	48
Nottm Forest	29	13	7	9	41	32	46
Tottenham	27	12	7	8	45	38	43
Leeds	27	11	9	7	35	28	42
Sheff Wed	29	10	9	10	38	38	39
Aston Villa	30	9	11	10	45	42	38
Arsenal	29	9	10	10	32	32	37
Wimbledon	28	10	6	12	33	49	36
Norwich	28	9	8	11	27	33	35
Man City	28	9	8	11	37	44	35
Coventry	29	8	10	11	29	45	34
Chelsea	27	8	9	10	35	38	33
Southampton	27	6	13	8	39	44	31
QPR	26	8	7	11	39	45	31
Everton	29	7	10	12	29	39	31
Crystal Palace	28	7	9	12	21	28	30
West Ham	28	8	5	15	26	37	29
Leicester	28	4	8	16	29	50	20
Ipswich	28	5	5	18	29	57	20

Endsleigh Insurance League

First division

(4) Bristol City v Luton
(5) Notts County v Reading
(6) Oldham v Sheff Utd
(7) Port Vale v Wolverhampton
(8) Portsmouth v Grimsby
(9) Southend v Sunderland
( ) Swindon v Barnsley
(10) Tranmere v Burnley
(11) Watford v Charlton
(12) West Bromwich v Stoke

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tranmere	32	16	8	8	50	35	56
Middlesbrough	30	16	7	7	44	26	55
Bolton	31	15	9	7	52	33	54
Reading	32	15	8	9	37	28	53
Sheff Utd	32	14	10	8	53	35	52
Wolves	30	15	5	10	52	41	50
Grimsby	32	12	12	8	49	40	48
Watford	31	12	11	8	35	29	47
Barnsley	30	13	6	11	41	39	45
Luton	31	12	7	12	43	43	43
Oldham	31	11	9	11	42	40	42
Millwall	29	10	10	9	37	36	40
Charlton	31	10	9	12	43	47	39
Derby	30	10	9	11	35	32	39
Port Vale	29	10	8	11	35	36	38
Portsmouth	31	9	10	12	35	45	37
Stoke	29	9	10	10	29	34	37
West Brom	32	10	7	15	28	39	37
Southend	32	10	6	16	32	59	36
Sunderland	31	7	15	9	31	31	36
Bristol City	32	9	7	16	30	43	34
Swindon	29	8	8	13	36	49	32
Burnley	29	6	9	14	28	44	27
Notts County	32	6	8	18	35	48	26

Second division

(13) Birmingham v Wrexham
(14) Blackpool v Rotherham
(15) Bournemouth v Hull
(16) Bradford v Cambridge Utd
(17) Brighton v Huddersfield
(18) Crewe v Bristol Rovers
(19) Oxford Utd v Chester
(20) Peterborough v Cardiff
(21) Plymouth v Leyton Orient
(22) Shrewsbury v Brentford
(23) Stockport v York
(24) Swansea v Wycombe

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brentford	31	18	5	8	61	28	59
Huddersfield	31	16	10	5	56	35	58
Birmingham	29	16	6	5	54	23	56
Crewe	30	17	4	9	57	48	55
Blackpool	32	16	5	11	53	49	53
Wycombe	29	15	8	6	42	32	53
Oxford Utd	30	14	7	9	46	38	49
Bradford	31	14	7	10	46	44	49
Bristol Rovers	27	12	11	4	45	25	47
Wrexham	29	12	10	7	50	38	46
Hull	29	13	7	9	47	38	46
York	29	13	5	11	44	32	44
Stockport	30	13	5	12	43	38	44
Swansea	29	10	12	7	36	31	42
Shrewsbury	31	9	9	13	42	42	36
Rotherham	30	9	9	12	39	41	36
Peterborough	30	8	11	11	38	55	35
Brighton	30	8	10	12	32	39	34
Cambridge Utd	31	7	11	13	40	54	32
Bournemouth	32	7	7	18	31	58	28
Plymouth	30	7	5	18	31	63	26
Cardiff	30	6	8	16	30	51	24
Leyton Orient	30	5	6	19	24	48	21
Chester	32	3	8	21	27	64	17

Third division

(25) Bury v Colchester
(26) Darlington v Carlisle
(27) Doncaster v Rochdale
(28) Fulham v Barnet
(—) Hartlepool v Exeter
(29) Mansfield v Gillingham
(30) Northampton v Lincoln
(31) Scarborough v Wigan
(32) Scunthorpe v Hereford
(33) Torquay v Chesterfield
(34) Walsall v Preston

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Carlisle	29	19	8	2	49	18	65
Chesterfield	29	16	7	6	40	26	55
Walsall	25	14	7	4	44	24	49
Doncaster	29	13	8	8	38	23	47
Mansfield	29	14	4	11	57	40	46
Colchester	29	12	8	9	38	40	44
Preston	29	13	5	11	36	39	44
Fulham	29	10	12	7	39	36	42
Bury	24	12	6	6	32	18	42
Scunthorpe	29	12	5	12	48	40	41
Barnet	27	11	6	10	33	36	39
Torquay	28	10	8	10	37	37	38
Lincoln	28	10	7	11	33	32	37
Darlington	28	10	6	12	35	37	36
Rochdale	28	9	7	12	33	49	34
Wigan	28	9	6	13	41	47	33
Hereford	30	8	7	15	33	51	31
Exeter	27	8	5	14	23	42	29
Gillingham	28	7	6	15	30	41	27
Northampton	29	5	10	14	28	43	25
Hartlepool	27	6	7	14	25	42	25
Scarborough	27	4	7	16	29	50	19

Vauxhall Conference

(—) Bath v Bromsgrove
(—) Dagenham and Red v Southport
(—) Dover v Woking
(—) Farnborough v Stalybridge
(—) Halifax v Merthyr Tydfil
(—) Kidderminster v Stevenage
(—) Macclesfield v Altrincham
(—) Northwich v Kettering
(—) Runcorn v Stafford
(—) Welling v Telford
(—) Yeovil v Gateshead ... P

Beazer Homes League

Premier division

(—) Cambridge City v Sittingbourne
(—) Chelmsford v Gloucester
(—) Cheltenham v Solihull
(—) Corby v Worcester
(—) Dorchester v Atherstone
(—) Gravesend and Northfl v Burton
(—) Halesowen v Sudbury
(35) Hednesford v Crawley
(36) Leek v Hastings
(37) Rushden and Diamonds v Gresley
(38) VS Rugby v Trowbridge

Bell's Scottish League

Premier division

(39) Aberdeen v Motherwell
(40) Dundee Utd v Partick
(41) Falkirk v Hibernian
(42) Hearts v Celtic
(43) Rangers v Kilmarnock

First division

(44) Ayr v Dunfermline
(45) Hamilton v Clydebank
(46) Raith v Dundee
(47) St Johnstone v Stranraer
(48) St Mirren v Airdrie

Second division

(49) Berwick v East Fife
(50) Brechin v Dumbarton
(51) Clyde v Meadowbank
(52) Greenock Morton v Stenhousemuir
(53) Stirling v Queen Of South

Third division

(54) Arbroath v Montrose
(55) Caley This v East Stirling
(56) Cowdenbeath v Alloa
(57) Forfar v Albion
(58) Queen's Park v Ross County

FA VASE: Sixth round: Arlesey Town v Cammell L; Basildon Utd v Raunds T; Met Police v Belper Town

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Southern division: Ashford v Weston-Super-Mare, Baldock v Newport IOW, Bashley v Fisher 93, Braintree v Burnham, Bury Town v Clevedon, Erith and Belvedere v Poole; Margate v Havant, Salisbury v Weymouth, Tonbridge AFC v Wealdstone, Witney v Waterlooville, Yate v Fareham. Midland division: Armitage v Leicester United; Bridgnorth v Grantham, Buckingham Town v Hinckley Town, Ilkeston v Dudley Town; Moor Green v Rothwell; Newport A F C v Bilston, Nuneaton v R.C. Warwick, Redditch v Forest Green; Stourbridge v Evesham; Sutton Coldfield v Bedworth; Tamworth v King's Lynn.

DIADORA LEAGUE: Premier division: Bishop's Stortford v Walton and Hersham, Chesham v Marlow, Enfield v Bromley, Harrow v Carshalton; Hendon v Grays, Kingstonian v Aylesbury; Molesey v Purfleet, St Albans v Dulwich, Sutton United v Slough, Wokingham v Hitchin, Yeading v Hayes. First division: Aldershot Town v Chertsey, Boreham Wood v Bognor Regis, Heybridge Swifts v Abingdon Town; Leyton v Worthing, Maidenhead v Billericay, Newbury v Berkhamsted, Ruislip Manor v Dorking; Staines v Wivenhoe, Tooting and Mitcham v Basingstoke, Uxbridge v Barking, Wembley v Whyteleafe. Second division: Aveley v Hungerford, Banstead v Cheshunt, Barton v Hemel Hempstead, Chalfont St Peter v Edgware, Croydon v Hampton, Malden Vale v Windsor and Eton; Saffron Walden v Leatherhead; Thame v Witham, Tilbury v Bracknell. Third division: Camberley v Southall, Cove v Flackwell Heath, Feltham and Hounslow v Harefield, Harlow v Epsom and Ewell; Hornchurch v Bedford Town, Horsham v Hertford; Leighton v Kingsbury, Lewes v East Thurrock; Northwood v Collier Row; Tring v Clapton.

UNIBOND NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Premier division: Accrington Stanley v Guiseley; Barrow v Winsford, Bishop Auckland v Hyde, Boston v Knowsley, Chorley v Matlock, Droylsden v Frickley; Emley v Colwyn Bay; Gainsborough v Witton, Marine v Whitley Bay; Spennymoor v Morecambe. First division: Bamber Bridge v Radcliffe, Caernarfon v Gt Harwood, Curzon Ashton v Congleton, Eastwood Town v Fleetwood, Farsley Celtic v Lancaster, Goole v Atherton LR, Gretna v Worksop, Harrogate Town v Ashton United, Mossley v Alfreton; Warrington v Blyth Spartans, Workington v Netherfield.

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth v Ebbw Vale; Alan Lido v Cwmbran (2.30), Caersws v Inter Cardiff, Flint Town v Connah's Quay, Llanelli v Barry, Llansantffraid v Porthmadog, Newtown v Conwy, Rhyl v Bangor City (2.30), Ton Pentre v Holywell.

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Burnham Ramblers v Bowers, Concord v Brentwood, Eton Manor v Southend Manor, Gt Wakering v East Ham, Maldon v Stansted.

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Barkingside v Brimsdown, Cockfosters v St Margaretsbury; Hanwell v Walthamstow Pennant, Haringey v Amersham, Hillingdon v Beaconsfield Sycob, Waltham Abbey v Croydon, Willesden v Brook House.

PARASOL COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ash v Chipstead, Ashford v Eton Wick, Bedfont v Horley: Cobham A v Farnham; Hartley Wintney v Merstham, Peppard v D C A Basingstoke, Sandhurst v Netherne, Viking Sports v Cranleigh, Westfield v Godalming and Guildford.

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Dunstable v Brache Sparta: Hoddesdon v Biggleswade, Langford v Shillington, Potters Bar v Letchworth Gc, Royston v Hatfield, Wingate and Finchley v Harpenden. O'Brien Butchers Trophy: Third round: Totternhoe v Welwyn Garden City.

JEWSON LEAGUE: Premier division: Cornard v Wroxham; Fakenham v Felixstowe; Hadleigh U v Soham, Harwich and Parkeston v Diss; Histon v Halstead, March v Sudbury, Newmarket v Lowestoft; Stowmarket v Chatteris; Tiptree v Wisbech, Watton v Haverhill, Woodbridge v Great Yarmouth.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Barnstaple v Chippenham; Calne v Elmore; Crediton v Paulton, Frome v Odd Down, Taunton v Torrington, Tiverton v Bideford; Westbury v Bridport.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Alc Totton v Brockenhurst: Andover v Ryde Sports; Bemerton Heath v Petersfield; Bournemouth v Gosport, Christchurch v Aerostructures; Downton v Horndean, East Cowes Vics v B.A.T; Portsmouth v Cowes Sports; Swanage and Herston v Alc Lymington, Thatcham v Fleet; Wimborne v Eastleigh.

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Hailsham v Portfield, Oakwood v Eastbourne Town, Peacehaven and Telscombe v Burgess Hill, Ringmer v Shoreham, Southwick v Crowborough, Stamco v Newhaven; Three Bridges v East Grinstead, Whitehawk v Littlehampton; Wick v Langney Sports. John O'Hara League Cup: Second-round replay: Pagham v Redhill. Third round: Bosham v Arundel.

WINSTONLEAD LEAGUE: First division: Beckenham Town v Herne Bay; Canterbury City v Slade Green, Cray Wanderers v Thamesmead Town, Crockenhill v Whitstable Town, Darenth Heathside v Chatham Town; Deal Town v Corinthian, Faversham Town v Dartford, Folkestone Invicta v Sheppey United, Furness v Tunbridge Wells, Ramsgate v Greenwich Borough.

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Abingdon v Kintbury; Almondsbury v Carterton, Bicester v Banbury, Brackley v Pegasus Juniors, Cinderford v Tuffley, Highworth v Cirencester; North Leigh v Shortwood.

HEREWARD SPORTS UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Boston v Newport Pagnell, Cogenhoe v Stamford: Long Buckby v Kempston S and L Corby v Spalding, Desborough v Bourne, Northampton Spencer v Holbeach, Wellingborough v Mirrlees Blackstone; Wootton v Eynesbury.

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Knypersley Vic v Shifnal, Oldbury v Brierley Hill; Pershore v Stapenhill, Rushall O v Barwell, West Mid. Police v Shepshed D Industrial Re-Wind Cup: Quarter-finals: Chasetown/ Halesowen v Paget, Hinckley Athletic v Boldmere Swifts, Rocester v Sandwell Boro, Stratford v Boldmere St Michaels.

SKOL MIDLAND FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Premier division: Ansells v Knowle, Blorwich v West Midland Fire Service, Coleshill v Highgate; Handrahan Timbers v Shirley; Kings Heath v Chelmsley, Northfield v Meir K.A.; Sherwood Celtic v Wellesbourne, Upton v Alvechurch Villa.

BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Blakenall v Gornal; Darlaston F C v Westfields, Ettingshall H T v Cradley, Hill Top v Manders F C, Ludlow v Pelsall Villa, Stafford F.C. v Bloxwhich Strollers, Tividale F C v Stourport Swifts, Walsall Wood F C v Bilston; Wednesfield v Lye.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Armthorpe Welfare v Ossett Town, Denaby v Pickering, Glasshoughton Wel. v Stocksbridge P S, Hucknall v Brigg, Lincoln United v North Ferriby; Liversedge v Thackley, Ossett Albion v Hallam, Pontefract Col v Ashfield; Sheffield v Arnold.

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Chadderton v Rossendale: Clitheroe v Nantwich, Bradford Park Avenue v Darwen; Eastwood H v Bacup, Maine Road v Blackpool Rovers, Newcastle Town v Holker Old Boys, Penrith v Burscough; Salford v Prescot; St. Helens v Trafford, Skelmersdale v Bootle; Glossop North End v Kidsgrove.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Billingham v Hebburn, Dunston FB v Peterlee, Durham v Consett; Eppleton CW v Tow Law; Northallerton v Chester le Street: Prudhoe v Murton, Shildon v Bedlington Terriers; Whitby v Ferryhill, Seaham Red Star v RTM Newcastle.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Arsenal v Luton.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ballyclare v Newry; Bangor v Linfield; Carrick v Glenavon; Coleraine v Ards; Glentoran v Cliftonville, Larne v Ballymena, Omagh v Distillery, Portadown v Crusaders.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Arsenal v Charlton, Chelsea v Southend, Fulham v Norwich, Gillingham v Tottenham Hotspur, Ipswich v Millwall, Portsmouth v Leyton Orient, Watford v Queens Park Rangers, West Ham v Cambridge Utd. Second division: Brighton v Wimbledon, Colchester v Luton, Crystal Palace v Bristol City, Reading v Bristol Rovers; Tottenham v Swindon, Wycombe v Brentford.

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Aldenhamians v Carthusians, Etonians v Malvernians, Reptonians v Brentwoods, Wellingburians v Lancing. First division: Ardinians v Wykehamists, Haileyburians v Westminsters; Harrovians v Bradfieldians, Salopians v Cholmeleians.

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Clapham v O Danes; Glyn v O Aloysians, O Hamptonians v O Tenisonians, O Wilsonians v Cardinal Manning. Senior first division: O Salvatorians v O Kingsburians, O Suttonians v Latymer; O Wokingians v Shene, Phoenix v O Edmontonians.

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: First division: Civil Service v East Barnet OG, Midland Bank v O Latymerians, Nat West Bank v Crouch End Vampires, O Esthameians v West Wickham. Second division: Alexandra Park v O Stationers, Broomfield v O Parkonians, Carshalton v O Bromleians, Kew Association v Polytechnic, O Westminster Citizens v Lloyds Bank. Third division: Alleyn OB v O Salesians, Barclays Bank v Southgate Olympic, Cuaco v Bank of England; Ibis v O Lyonian, Merton v Reigate Priory.

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: Senior one: Southgate County v Mill Hill Village, Wandsworth Bor v O Grammarians, Witan v O Owens. Senior Two: Ealing Assoc v Corinthian Cas; Honourable Artillery Co v Hadley, O Bealonians v Hale End Ath, O Fairlopians v UCL Academicals, O Finchleians v Duncombe Sports.

SCHOOLS MATCHES: London Corinthian Shield: Islington v South London (at Chase Lodge, 10.30). London Pearl Trophy: West London v Hackney (at Barn Elms, 10.30). Essex Finch Trophy: Havering v Newham (at Westlands, 10.30). Middlesex Batchelor Cup: Brent v Harrow (at John Billham, 10.30) Miller Trophy: Vale of White Horse v Reading (at Wantage, 10.30) Northern Merit: South Cheshire v Leeds (at Nantwich, 10.30); Blackburn v Kirkby Knowsley (at Pleasington, 10.30). English Schools seven-a-sides: Northern finals (at Batley 11.30). South-West finals (at Newbury 12.0) Inter-Town Challenge: Blackburn v Kirkby (10.30), Bradford v Darby (10.30), Darlington v Carlisle (10.30), Copeland v Allerdale (10.30).

RUGBY LEAGUE

Kick-off 2.30 unless stated

Silk Cut Challenge Cup

Fifth round

Warrington v Oldham (3.0)

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Premier division: Heworth v Egremont, Leigh M W v Mayfield; Saddleworth v Hemel Hempstead, West Hull v Wigan St Patricks.

BNFL NATIONAL CUP: Fourth round: Postponed: Woolston v Queens

HOCKEY

MEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Surbiton v Cannock (at Sugden Road 3.0); Firebrands v Slough (at Longwood, Bristol 1.30). Second division: Oxford University v Hampstead and Westminster (at St Edwards School, Oxford 1.30).

DTZ DEBENHAM THORPE MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Belper v Lichfield, Bloxwich v Khalsa, Leicester Westleigh v Harbourne; North Notts v Hampton-in-Arden; Nottingham v Olton and West Warwickshire

SUN LIFE LEAGUE: Premier division: Bath Buccaneers v Exeter University: Plymouth v Cheltenham, Swansea v West Glos; West Wilts v Taunton Vale; Weston-super-Mare v Hereford.

NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Ben Rhydding v Warrington, Blackburn v Stockton, Harrogate v Formby, Southport v Hightown-Northern, Timperley v Norton.

NORWICH UNION EAST LEAGUE: Premier division A: Bishop's Stortford v Peterborough Town; Blueharts v Colchester, Cambridge University v Dereham, Chelmsford v Ipswich, Luton v Redbridge and Ilford. Premier division B: Bedford v Old Southendian, Ipswich and East Suffolk v Romford; Norwich City v Stevenage, Pelicans v Bury St Edmunds, Sudbury v Westcliff.

NASTRO AZZURRO LEAGUE: Premier League: Anchorians v Lewes; Ashford v Old Walcountians; City Of Portsmouth v Lyons; Dulwich v Chichester, Fareham v Old Whitgiftians, Gore Court v Staines; Maidenhead v High Wycombe, Old Kingstonians v Spencer, Oxford Hawks v Woking; Winchester v Wimbledon. Regionals: Hampshire/Surrey: Basingstoke v Southampton Tauntonians, Bournemouth v O Edwardians; Cheam v Barnes; Fleet v Pirelli, Hamble OB v O Mid Whitgiftians, Lensbury v Camberley. London University v Epsom, Merton v Weybridge Hawks, Oxted v Purley; Petersfield v Oxshott. Kent/Sussex: Beckenham v Belvedere; Bexleyheath v Herne Bay; Blackheath v Gravesend, Bognor v O Williamsonians, Brighton v Crawley; Greenwich v O Bordenians, Mid Sussex v O Holcombeians, Sevenoaks v Horsham, Tulse Hill v Marden Russets, Tunbridge Wells v Middleton. Middx/Berks/Bucks and Oxon: Amersham v Headington, Aylesbury v City Of Oxford; Milton Keynes v Marlow, Newbury v Mill Hill, OMT v HCC, PHC Chiswick v Hayes; Ramgarhia v Hendon, Richings Park v Gerrards Cross, Sunbury v Eastcote; Wokingham v Bracknell

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL: England v Scotland (Lilleshall, 2.0).

CLUB MATCHES: Balsam Leicester v Ealing, City of Portsmouth v Southampton T, Colwall v Hampton, Chelmsford v Wimbledon, Clifton v Swansea, Dulwich v Horsham, Exmouth v Cardiff Athletic, Hamstead v Winchmore Hill; Leamington v Penarth, Olton WW v Bracknell, Redland v Reading, Sheffield v Sherwood, St Albans v Woking.

WOMEN'S COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: North (Birkenhead) Cheshire v Manchester Lge: Lancaster v Sheffield Lge, Manchester Lge v LCL. Cheshire v Humberside (at Southlands. Northumberland v Durham, Yorkshire v Cumbria).

EAST LEAGUE: Bexley Heath v Old Loughtonians, Harleston M v Cambridge City, Redbridge v WGC, Saracens v Sevenoaks.

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 2.30 unless stated

Pilkington Cup

Quarter-finals

Bath v Northampton (3.0)
Exeter v Wasps (3.0)
Harlequins v Wakefield (3.0)
Sale v Leicester (2.15)

Courage clubs championship

Third division

Blackheath v Harrogate
Morley v Bedford (3.0)
Richmond v Clifton (3.0)
Rosslyn Park v Otley (3.0)

Fourth division

Aspatria v Havant
Broughton Park v Askeans
Leeds v Reading
Plymouth v Liverpool St Helens
Redruth v Rotherham (3.0)

Fifth division north

Birmingham/Solihull v Barkers Butts
Kendal v Stourbridge
Lichfield v Preston Grasshoppers
Nuneaton v Winnington Park
Sheffield v Walsall
Stoke v Hereford

Fifth division south

Basingstoke v Henley
Barry Hill v Barking
Camborne v Tabard
High Wycombe v Met Police
Lydney v Sudbury (3.0)
Weston-super-Mare v North Walsham (3.0)

LONDON: First division: Camberley v Ruislip; Harlow v Southend; Maidstone v Ealing; Sutton and Epsom v Eton Manor; Old Colfeians v Guildford and Godalming. Old Mid-Whitgiftians v Esher.

SOUTH WEST: First division: Brixham v Maidenhead; Cheltenham v St Ives; Cinderford v Newbury, Gloucester OB v Torquay; Sherborne v Stroud; Taunton v Barnstaple.

MIDLANDS: First division: Burton v Westleigh; Camp Hill v Syston, Derby v Towcestrians, Stafford v Mansfield; Whitchurch v Bedworth; Wolverhampton v Worcester.

NORTH: First division: Hull Ionians v Durham City, Manchester v Bradford and Bingley, Stockton v Sandal, West Park Bramhope v Widnes; Wigton v Tynedale; York v Huddersfield.

PILKINGTON SHIELD: Quarter-finals: North: Rushden and Higham v Queens, Wibsey v North Shields. South: Ilford Wanderers v St Albans; Tredworth v Kingsbridge.

Swalec Cup

Fifth round

Tenby Utd v Aberavon
Whitland v Mountain Ash

Heineken League

First division One

Llanelli v Newbridge
Neath v Bridgend
Pontypool v Cardiff
Pontypridd v Abertillery
Swansea v Newport
Treorchy v Dunvant

Second division

Abercynon v South Wales Police
Cross Keys v Llandovery
Llanharan v Maesteg
Narberth v Penarth

THIRD DIVISION: Aberavon Quins v Kenfig Hill, Blaina v Tondu, Builth Wells v Blackwood, Caerphilly v Glamorgan Wanderers: Ystradgynlais v Pontypool United.

McEwan's League

First division

Currie v Jed-Forest (3.0)
Edinburgh Acads v Heriot's FP (3.0)
Glasgow H K v Gala (3.0)
Hawick v Stewarts Mel FP (3.0)
Melrose v Dundee HSFP (3.0)
Stirling County v Boroughmuir (3.0)
Watsonians v West of Scotland (3.0)

Second division

Biggar v Corstorphine (3.0)
Edinburgh Wndrs v Peebles (3.0)
Glasgow Acads v Musselburgh (3.0)
Gordonians v Kirkcaldy (3.0)
Grangemouth v Haddington (3.0)
Preston Lodge v Wigtownshire (3.0)
Selkirk v Kelso (3.0)

Insurance Corporation League

First division

Sunday's Well v Cork Constitution

Second division

Univ College Dublin v Wanderers

Tour match

Leinster v Northern Transvaal (at Donnybrook)

Club matches

Bristol v London Scottish (3.0)
Cambridge Univ v London Welsh (3.0)
Fylde v Middlesbrough
Gloucester v Waterloo (3.0)
London Irish v Saracens (3.0)
Moseley v Orrell (3.0)
Rugby v Coventry (3.0)
West Hartlepool v Nottingham (3.0)

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Fife v Basingstoke (7.15); Humberside v Durham (5.45), Milton Keynes v Sheffield (6.30): Nottingham v Edinburgh (6.30), Peterborough v Bracknell (6.30); Whitley v Cardiff (6.30). First division: Blackburn v Lee Valley (6.0); Dumfries v Slough (7.15); Guildford v Chelmsford (6.0), Medway v Solihull (5.15); Swindon v Trafford (5.15), Telford v Paisley (7.30).

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Chester v Leopards (8.0); Leicester v Birmingham (7.30). Sunderland v London (7.30); Thames Valley v Manchester (8.0); Worthing v Doncaster (8.0)

BOXING

LONDON ARENA: World Boxing Council super-middleweight championship: Nigel Benn (GB, holder) v Gerald McClellan (US). World Boxing Council light-heavyweight championship: Mike McCallum (Jam, holder) v Mike Jones (US) World Boxing Association light-heavyweight championship: Virgil Hill (US, holder) v Crawford Ashley (GB). British light-middleweight championship (vacant): Lloyd Honeyghan (Bermondsey) v Adrian Dodson (Islington)

OTHER SPORT

BILLIARDS: Strachan UK championship (Wigan)

BOWLS: Churchill Insurance world indoor championships (Preston).

LACROSSE: North of England League: First division: Sale v Boardman and Eccles A; Mellor v Poynton; Ashton v Stockport; Sheffield Steelers v Heaton Mersey; Timperley v Cheadle.

SWIMMING: British Grand Prix meeting (Leeds).

TENNIS: LTA men's satellite tournament (Eastbourne), LTA women's challenger tournament (Newcastle).

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

FA Carling Premiership

QPR v Nottingham Forest (4.0)

Endsleigh Insurance League

First division

Derby v Bolton (2.55)
Millwall v Middlesbrough (2.55)

FA VASE: Sixth round: Oxford City v Canvey Island

UNDER-16 INTERNATIONAL: Greece v England (at Panionios).

FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: National League: Ilkeston v Croydon, Leasowe Pacific v Liverpool F C Ladies, Millwall Lionesses v Arsenal. Wembley v Red Star Southampton, Wolverhampton v Doncaster Belles.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

Silk Cut Challenge Cup

Fifth round

*Batley v Wigan (3.15)
Hull K R v Whitehaven (3.15)
Keighley v Huddersfield (3.15)
Leeds v Ryedale York
Salford v Featherstone
Sheffield v Widnes (3.15)
Workington v Leigh

Stones Bitter Championship

First division

Wakefield v Castleford (3.30)

Second division

Swinton v London Broncos

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Premier division: Chorley v Dudley Hill (2.30)

HOCKEY

MEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Canterbury v Cannock (at Polo Farm, 1.0); East Grinstead v Surbiton (at Saint Hill, 2.0); Guildford v Reading (King's Manor School, 12.0), Havant v Firebrands (at Havant College, 2.15), Hull v Hounslow (at Orchard Park, 2.0); Indian Gymkhana v Southgate (at Feltham School, 2.0); Old Loughtonians v Teddington (at Chigwell, 1.30). Slough v Trojans (at Wexham School, 2.0), Stourport v Bournville (at Kidderminster School, 2.30). Second division: Doncaster v Neston (at Bennetthorpe, 2.0); Edgbaston v Beeston (at Birmingham University, 12.30); Gloucester City v Crosby (at Plock Court, 1.30), Harleston Magpies v Isca (at Shotford Heath, 2.0), Richmond v Barford Tigers (at Teddington School, 2.0); Sheffield v Bromley (at Abbeydale, 12.30), St Albans v Brooklands (at Clarence Park, 2.0); Whitchurch v Cambridge City (at Llys Tal y Bont, Cardiff 1.30)

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL: England v Scotland (Lilleshall, 11.0)

WOMEN'S COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: North (at Birkenhead) Manchester Lge v Lancashire, LCL v Humberside; Sheffield Lge v Cheshire: Lancashire v Humberside; Sheffield Lge v LCL (At Southlands) Northumberland v Yorkshire, Durham v Cumbria, Yorkshire v Durham, Cumbria v Northumberland

CLUB MATCHES: Trojans v Woking, WRAC v Chichester

ICE HOCKEY

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Bracknell v Humberside (5.15); Durham v Cardiff (6.30); Edinburgh v Basingstoke (6.30), Fife v Sheffield (6.30). Peterborough v Whitley (6.30). First division: Blackburn v Swindon (6.0); Chelmsford v Telford (6.30). Paisley v Slough (6.30), Solihull v Guildford (7.0); Trafford Metros v Dumfries (5.30)

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Hemel v Derby (1.30); Sheffield v Sunderland (6.15)

BILLIARDS: Strachan UK Championship (Wigan).

BOWLS: Churchill Insurance world indoor championships (Preston)

SNOOKER: Dr Martens's European League: J Parrott v R O'Sullivan (12.0), J White v A McManus (4.0); S Hendry v S Davis (8.0) (Irthlingborough).

SWIMMING: British Grand Prix meeting (Leeds)

TENNIS: LTA men's satellite tournament (Eastbourne)

VOLLEYBALL: National League: Women: KLEA Leeds v London Malory (2.30). Wessex v Sale (2.30), Birmingham v Britannia Music City (12.45).

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Saturday portrait: Nigel Benn, by Srikumar Sen, boxing correspondent

The people's champion who learnt to take adversity on the chin

ILLUSTRATION BY STEVE MARTIN



Nigel Benn is one of the best all-round boxers Britain has produced since Barry McGuigan. If he had pushed his ambitions beyond tackling domestic and second-level world contenders, he might have been one of the great middleweights. Today, at 31 and after a campaign of eight long years, he meets for the first time an opponent of the highest class in Gerald McClellan, whom many claim to be the best pound-for-pound boxer in the world.

Some admirers of Benn fear that he might not last more than three or four rounds: that he will not be able to take a punch from a boxer who has finished off 20 of his 29 opponents in the first round. Punters are betting not so much on who will win the World Boxing Council (WBC) super-middleweight title bout at the London Arena, but when Benn will fall. Some experts believe that Benn has come to the end of the road.

Benn's chin may not be sound but he has never been anything other than a proud and tough competitor. He has shown tremendous character by coming back from a crushing defeat by Michael Watson and winning two world titles, one in the United States and one in Italy. Only one Englishman, Dennis Andries, has shown greater determination to succeed after adversity. Even though Benn had won every Army title from welter to heavyweight except light-heavy, become Amateur Boxing Association champion and, as a professional, won his first 22 bouts, he decided after the defeat by Watson to go back to basics, a move that took outstanding courage.

"I think Michael Watson helped me to discover myself," Benn said. "He taught me more in six rounds than I had learnt in all my previous 22 fights."

He knew he had to stop that crash-bang-wallop approach, and decided to start anew in the United States. With Ambrose Mendy, who was his manager then, and a new trainer, Vic Andreeti, he joined a gym in Miami and placed himself in the hands of Bob Arum, the American promoter. He sparred with Freddie Pendleton, a technically proficient American, and found others who could not only trade punches but could also show him slick new moves.

He outpointed Jorge Amparo and Sanderline Williams and knocked out José Quiñones. He then won the World Boxing Organisation title by defeating Doug DeWitt in Atlantic City in 1990. After what Benn calls an "X-rated" one-round knockout of Iran Barclay, he returned to Britain with little regard for British middleweights. He was rudely dismissive of Chris Eubank.

Not surprisingly, Benn took his ninth-round defeat by Eubank in Birmingham badly, even though it was considered the most exciting bout seen in Britain for years. Peter DeFreitas, his manager to-

> 'Proud and tough, his courage has helped him to find peace with his sport and himself'

day, claims that Benn had not trained properly, locking himself in his room for a week before the bout, and was 6¾lb over the weight limit on the morning of the bout.

"He booked into an Army camp three weeks before the fight and he was there a day, home a day, which should never have been," DeFreitas said. "He thought because he was world champion he couldn't get beat." Yet Eubank said after the bout: "They said he was chinny. He ain't chinny. I hit him with everything. He just kept coming. The man is an animal. He has enough power to kill me."

"Nigel was going to quit, but after he sat down and thought about it, he knew where he went wrong," DeFreitas said. "He could come back again as champion of the world. I told him: 'Slow down, don't be so aggressive to people away from the ring, calm down and you'll be a much nicer person'."

Benn took DeFreitas's advice and became a mature boxer. He brought in Jimmy Tibbs to tighten his defence and learnt how to pace a bout. It was Tibbs who took him to his WBC super-middleweight title in Rome, where he beat Mauro Galvano in his home town, and who stayed with Benn through six title defences, improving his technique. But he could do nothing about the vulnerability of Benn's chin, so he taught the 5ft 9½in, 11½-stone boxer to make quick movements about the ring to avoid taking solid blows to the head. Tibbs, however, resigned recently over money, and Benn called in Kevin Sanders, who comes from Peterborough but lives in Las Vegas and works as an assistant to Eddie Futch, the great American trainer.

Benn is shy and values his privacy above all else. He seldom attends boxing matches unless it is to encourage a friend, like Billy Schwer, the Commonwealth lightweight champion. He hated being treated like a show dog in the old days. Now, as his own master, he can do as he pleases. Sometimes, his concern for his freedom has blinded him to his boxing commitments; this week, he again failed to make an appearance at a press conference to publicise his bout.

Benn's career appears to have come full circle. He turned professional under Frank Warren in 1987. After 22 straight wins in two years, he broke away from Warren after a court decision and joined Mendy. Five years, 42 contests, five trainers, four promoters and two near-retirements later, he is back with Warren and has recently gone through another court action, brought by his first trainer, Brian Lynch.

In that time, Benn became Britain's most improved boxer and found peace with his sport and himself, no longer carrying the fiery temperament with him from press conference to press conference, petrifying his opponents and on one occasion even turning Eubank's lisp into a stutter. He was never comfortable boxing under the soubriquet of the Dark Destroyer, but the name has stayed with him.

The man who liked nothing better than a night out with the boys has settled down. Two years in Northern Ireland with the Royal Fusiliers instilled discipline into the tearaway teenager from Ilford, and he says that he has never forgotten what he learnt there — the element of surprise and the importance of planning. "I went in a boy and came out a man," he said. He was in the Army for almost five years, also serving in Germany.

Benn married Sharon Crowley in 1991 and they have three children. Now he lives in Los Angeles and also has a home in Barbados, commuting to Britain. He still has his 18-room, £1 million house in Beckenham, Kent, complete with swimming pool, a Porsche, a Ferrari and a Mercedes, all behind electrically operated gates. Benn is believed to be among Britain's ten richest sportsmen, worth between £2 million and £3 million.

"Chris Eubank likes to walk around in expensive clothes. Nigel has done all that," DeFreitas said. "Eubank would buy a jacket for £2,000, but Nigel will put on his jeans and go down to the rave club or lock himself up in his room and listen to his music for hours.

"He loves his music and makes up tapes to play at clubs all over England. In his spare time, he devotes himself to helping victims of cerebral palsy. He is in the process of buying a minibus for Timmy Matheson, a young man he cares for. He will do anything for anybody. He is the people's favourite. Look at Nigel: he gets beaten but he remains the people's champion. The day Eubank gets beat no one will turn on a set."

Christie tests Birmingham track

BY DAVID POWELL
ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT

THE highlight of the indoor athletics season in Britain takes place today and Ian Stewart, the successor to Andy Norman as head of promotions, has ensured a meeting well worth giving up an afternoon to watch. The talent that he has assembled should see that the KP Invitation, at the national indoor arena in Birmingham, is high on the International Amateur Athletic Federation meeting evaluation list, even though a date clash with Fairfax, in the United States, leaves him short of Americans.

From the way that Linford Christie ran in Liévin last Sunday, setting a European record of 6.47sec for 60 metres and a world record of 20.25sec for 200 metres, it seems that nothing is beyond the grand master of sprinting. Christie's appearance in the 60 metres, and that of Frankie Fredericks, the Namibian who beat the old 200 metres world record to finish 0.01sec behind Christie in Liévin, will provide the most interesting test so far of how quick the Birmingham track might be.

Liévin is the fastest 200 metres track and among the quickest for 60 metres. Birmingham has yet to prove itself. The track records are Leroy Burrell's 6.51sec and Fredericks's 20.58sec.

While Christie will confine himself to the 60 metres, Fredericks will run in two sprints, as will John Regis. Almost unnoticed behind Christie in Liévin was Darren Braithwaite's 6.58sec, a time which only four Britons have beaten, and his progress will be watched with interest.

Nobody will be more highly charged than Regis, who went to Liévin intent on setting the 200 metres world record only to be disqualified for running outside his lane while his fellow Briton went on to celebrate the feat. Regis's explanation was that he attacked so hard that, when he came into the second bend, his speed was out of control. He believes that 20.20sec is within his grasp this season.



Privalova: record-holder

Irina Privalova, of Russia, comes to Birmingham fresh from her 200 metres European record of 22.10sec in Liévin, but runs in the 60 metres, at which, this season, she has equalled her own world record of 6.92sec. She recorded 6.94sec in Liévin. Zhanna Tarnopolskaya, of Ukraine, and Stephanie Douglas and Paula Thomas, two Britons, will be there to chase her. Thomas should fare better in the 200 metres.

Ellen van Langen, of Holland, who recorded the fastest women's 800 metres of the year, 2min 00.36sec, in Liévin, runs that distance in Birmingham; Olga Shishgina, who recorded the season's quickest 60 metres hurdles, 7.85sec, competes in her main event; and Tony Jarrett, after his English record of 7.42sec for the sprint hurdles, takes over the lead role from Colin Jackson, who is still training in Australia.

Despite all this talent, Stewart believes, with some justification, that the men's 3,000 metres could steal the show, or perhaps the 1,500 metres. Moses Kiptanui, a London-based Kenyan, set a world record for the 3,000 metres with his 7min 35.13sec in Ghent a fortnight ago and ran 7min 37.14sec in Liévin. It would be admirable if he could produce a run of that calibre for the third successive weekend.

He may need to if he is to win. Kiptanui faces Venuste Nyongabo, who emerged outdoors last year as a potential challenger to Noureddine Morceli, of Algeria, and Gennaro Di Napoli, who set an Italian 3,000 metres indoor record of 7min 41.94sec in Liévin.

Hicham El Guerrouj, 20, of Morocco, is to chase the 1,500 metres world record of 3min 34.16sec held by Morceli. Impossible for one so inexperienced and in, of all things, a development race? Amar Brahmia, who manages both men, does not think so.

TIMES SPORT ON MONDAY

THE OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE BOAT RACE SPONSORED BY

BALANCING THE BOAT

How do rowing coaches at Oxford and Cambridge achieve the right balance in a Boat Race crew? David Miller reports

THROUGH THE TURNSTILE

Louise Taylor heads for Preston and the world bowls championship in search of value for money for the spectator

12 PAGES OF SPORT ON MONDAY

Fat yellow books on offer for cricket's famous five



SIMON BARNES
On Saturday

ONCE again, it is time to select this column's five Readers of the Year. It may feel like winter, but there are buds on trees, birds in song and a new *Wisden* all but ready to burst upon the world. And, with the latest fat yellow book come the five *Wisden Cricketers of the* Year: the annual awards that are in the gift of the editor, Matthew Engel, for outstanding contributions to the English season of the preceding year. Who will they be?

Send your educated guesses and wild speculations to me: I will soon have five copies of *Wisden 1995* to send to the readers who come closest to naming the mighty five.

Remember, as you prepare your list, that no cricketer can win the award twice. I can think of at least one Warwickshire batsman who has never won it. Deadline for entries is March 6; winners to be announced on April 8. Last year nobody managed all five; prizes go to those closest to the editor's judgment, this column being sole judge of proximity.

Good luck to all: and remember, it is still true that no player for Tewin Irregulars has *ever* won the award.

Skating scandal

As Britain braces itself for the world figure skating championships, to be held in Birmingham in a couple of weeks' time, I hear of yet more allegations of criminality among American ice queens. As the excitement from the Tonya Harding-Nancy Kerrigan business begins to fade away, I learn that Nicole Bobek, 17 and recent winner of the United States championship, competed while on probation. She was arrested in November last year and charged with "first-degree home invasion". It was alleged that she broke into the home of another skater from Detroit Skating Club. Under Michigan law, a first-time offender aged 17 to 21 can enter a conditional plea of guilty and come under something called the Holmes Youthful Trainee Act. Such a plea brought Bobek two years' probation, 50 hours of community service or 30 days in jail, and a six-month curfew of 6pm, which could be extended by half an hour if she was at school, and an hour after skating practice or competition. However, these conditions were wiped out when the case was heard and dismissed at a hearing after the US championships.

Double blow

Hard luck story of the year: Blair Sellers, 15, was batting for South Melbourne juniors when his lofted shot hit a seagull. A certain four was reduced to two. Sellers shrugged this disappointment off and batted on. But he was out — you've guessed it — for 98. It would have been, I learn from next month's *Wisden Cricket Monthly*, his first century.



Simpoley the best

Loony of the week: and greetings to Steve Simpole, former international oarsman. He will row in the Head of the River Race on March 25, a murderous event that involves rowing the entire Boat Race course backwards. The next weekend, as a way of winding down, he intends to run the London Marathon. Any challengers to vie for this crown of folly?

Keeping track

Meanwhile, those who run the Vienna Marathon will do so with a microchip attached to their shoelaces. It is supposed to monitor a runner's route; last year a number of competitors took short cuts through Prater Park, and an enterprising Italian went most of the way by tube.

Making friends

Zambia, the one football team in the world that has this column's unconditional support, is to spend £200,000 on a campaign of friendliness. Two years ago, the country's top 18 players were killed in a plane crash. Many people in Zambia believe the plane was actually shot down after passing over a military base in Gabon; the Zambian government has accused Gabon of obstructing investigations into the crash. Now the Gabon football team has been drawn to play Zambia in Lusaka on April 9 in an Africa Cup match. A campaign to dampen down this potentially explosive situation involves leaflets bearing fraternal messages, T-shirts showing a handshake and bearing the legend "Be friends — *soyez amis*", and radio and television messages pleading for tolerance.

Down but not out

Yes! It's another Diego story, especially for anyone feeling Maradona withdrawal symptoms. This column's manager of the year has provoked gloating speculation that his days in charge of the Buenos Aires team Racing Club of Avellaneda. He has missed training for the past ten days, after all. But there is no rift in the lute: the poor boy is suffering from tonsillitis; he said he will probably have the troublesome things out very soon. Meanwhile, he is — yes! — plotting his comeback as a player, as soon as his suspension (for playing at the World Cup fizzing with stimulants) is ended. His dearest wish, he says, is to shout "goal!" in the face of Julio Grondona, president of the Argentine FA, and the referee, Lamolina.

New Zealand given heart by Greatbatch

WITH a belligerent innings of 76, Mark Greatbatch put New Zealand on course for a 46-run victory over South Africa in Christchurch yesterday, a win that secured them a place tomorrow in the final of their centenary competition, in which they will play Australia in Auckland.

South Africa made a promising start to their pursuit of New Zealand's 249 for seven but fell away badly and were bowled out for 203 in the 47th over.

Greatbatch, who had been surplus to requirements during New Zealand's recent 16-match run of one-day defeats, hit seven fours and two sixes in a sparkling innings, his highest since back-to-back centuries against England five years ago. His runs came from 85 balls and he added 98 for the second wicket with his captain, Ken Rutherford, who scored 61.

Chris Cairns, with 33 from 30 balls, provided further impetus and Adam Parore ensured a formidable total by making 30 from only 17 balls.

South African hopes were high while Gary Kirsten, who made 63, and Hansie Cronje were together for they got ahead of the required run-rate. Cronje hitting the off spinner, Shane Thomson, for successive sixes in the 23rd over.

However, Cronje then attempted to charge the medium-pace bowling of Justin Vaughan and was brilliantly stumped down the leg side by Parore. This proved the turning point. Kirsten went 21 runs later and the South African effort petered out.

☐ Kent confirmed yesterday that they have offered a contract for next season to Aravinda de Silva, the Sri Lanka Test batsman, subject to him being available to the county for the whole summer.

Scoreboard, page 43

Umpire objects to Stemp

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

RICHARD STEMP, the Yorkshire left-arm spinner, was removed from the attack after upsetting one of the umpires as the England A bowlers struggled to make inroads into the Bangladesh innings on the opening day of the three-day cricket match in Dhaka.

After the start had been delayed for 165 minutes by overnight thunderstorms, Bangladesh scored 168 for two in the 60 overs possible in the first three-day international to be played in the country for nine years. Part of the mopping-up procedure involved the groundstaff setting fire to petrol sprinkled over the bowlers' run-ups.

Bangladesh, who won the toss, were handicapped by an injury to Athar Ali, the opening batsman, who, with the score at 32 in the ninth over, was struck on the head by a rising ball from Richard Johnson. He was taken to hospital for stitches in a bad cut behind his left ear.

Stemp, who was fined £500 by the Test and County Cricket Board last season after using abusive language towards Mark Lathwell, of Somerset, in a county championship match, was spoken to by Sailab Hossain Tutul, one of the umpires, for dissent when Khaled Masud stood his ground when the bowler thought he had been caught at short leg by Jason Gallian.

Stemp showed his anger again when the same umpire called one of his deliveries as a wide. Alan Wells, the England captain, was asked to control Stemp, who was taken off after bowling only seven overs.

Bangladesh had taken 22 overs to score 48 when Masud lost his off stump to Ian Salisbury and Javed Belim had been in for more than three hours when Nick Knight's smart slip catch off Glen Chapple sent him back for 39 with the total 98.

Aminul Islam showed far more enterprise, however, reaching his half-century from 93 balls and raised the tempo after tea during an unbroken stand with Minhazul Abedin which produced 70 in 16 overs and raised the spirits of the long-suffering spectators.

Phil Neale, the England team manager, was an absentee because of sunstroke.

SCOREBOARD

BANGLADESH XI: First Innings

Athar Ali retired hurt	18
Javed Belim c Knight b Chapple	39
†Khaled Masud b Salisbury	7
Aminul Islam not out	65
Minhazul Abedin not out	23
Extras (b 4, lb 5, w 5, nb 2)	16
Total (2 wkts)	168

*Akram Khan, Enamul Hoque, Naimur Rahman, Saiful Islam, Ansar Rahman and Mohammad Rafiq to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-82, 2-98.

BOWLING: Chapple 12-2-32-1; Johnson 7-1-19-0; Stemp 10-1-29-0; Salisbury 13-3-24-1; Patel 6-1-12-0; Vaughan 7-2-22-0; Gallian 5-0-21-0.

ENGLAND A: *A P Wells, N V Knight, M P Vaughan, J E R Gallian, D L Hemp, G Chapple, †K J Piper, I D K Salisbury, R L Johnson, M M Patel, R D Stemp.

Umpires: Mohammed Asghar and Sailab Hossain Tutul.

هكذا من الاصل

Swedes hold off charge of golf's grizzled veterans

FROM MEL WEBB IN VALENCIA

THE young and spritely sit atop the pile for the moment, but they should beware, for the greybeards of the European golf tour have gathered menacingly behind them as the Turespaña Open Mediterrania goes into its third round today.

The lead, after 36 holes, was retained at Escorpion yesterday by Robert Karlsson, who had a 69 for a score of 133, 11 under par, to give him a one-stroke advantage over Fredrik Lindgren, his Swedish compatriot, who had a 68.

If either man wins tomorrow afternoon, it will be the first time that he has trodden the victory path, an experience that some of the grizzled veterans who stand at their shoulder had tasted before the pair were even out of their teething nappies.

Sharing third place with Ross McFarlane and Costantino Rocca, two shots off the pace, are Sam Torrance and Vicente Fernández, while, a further stroke behind, lurk Mark James and the granddaddy of them all, Brian Barnes.

Torrance, Fernández, James and Barnes, all forty-somethings who are living proof that ageism has no place on today's European Tour, have totted up some 50 European victories between them. The race this weekend may yet go to the young cubs, but there are a few older lions around who can still handle themselves pretty well when it comes to a scrap.

Torrance played the last seven holes in five under par to finish with a 67, and proved that he has not lost his strength when he launched a 300-yard drive on the 12th, from where he pitched to six feet for a birdie. The hole before, he had missed a par putt from 12 inches; it is amazing how far anger can propel a golf ball at times.

James had the same score as Torrance, but he fell foul of his Achilles' heel on the greens more often than he would have liked. Three times he three-putted for bogeys, but the eight birdies more than made up for the misses.

Barnes, 50 in June and golf's most celebrated reformed, self-confessed alcoholic, had five birdies and an eagle in a flawless 65 that was the best round of the day. His recipe for his Indian-summer form? "Going to the gym and getting fit and being able to see one ball on the tee now instead of three," he said. Those who have suffered with him in the arms of Bacchus will know exactly what he meant.

Meanwhile, Sandy Lyle, playing his first tournament since the beginning of November, scraped in on the cut line of one under par by sinking a life-saving birdie putt on the last hole. He then told a strange little tale of a revelation that came to him on the practice ground that owed its origins to such luminaries as Gary Player, Severiano Ballesteros and Mac O'Grady, Ballesteros's coach.

"I tried putting more of my weight on the left foot and putting my hands further forward at address, like Player used to, then remembered O'Grady telling Seve the same thing last summer," Lyle said. "I started with my chipping, and that felt pretty good, then kept the feeling through into my mid-irons. It quietened down my hands, which had got too active. If I had been able to buy a putt, I would have scored really well, but it's gradually coming back."

Lyle was obviously relieved that he was staying for the weekend. "I could do with something stronger than this," he said as he cracked open a post-round bottle of mineral water. He should try talking to Brian Barnes. These days he never drinks anything stronger than Adam's ale — and look what it has done for him.

☐ Ramón Sota, 57, the uncle of Seve Ballesteros, shot a closing 73 at the Hyatt La Manga Club Resort in Spain yesterday to earn an exempt place on the PGA European Seniors' Tour this year.

SECOND ROUND

Great Britain and Ireland unless stated

133: R Karlsson (Swe) 64, 69. 134: F Lindgren (Swe) 66, 68. 138: C Rocca (It) 69, 69, S Torrance 66, 67, R McFarlane 66, 70, V Fernandez (Arg) 66, 67. 139: M James 69, 67, B Barnes 71, 65. 138: P Baker 68, 70, G Emerson 70, 68, A Sherborne 66, 72, P Way 69, 69. 139: J Cabrera (Arg) 73, 66, P Curry 69, 70, W Riley (Aus) 69, 70, J Sandelin (Swe) 68, 71, M Pinero (Sp) 71, 68, D Borrego (Sp) 70, 69. 140: J Bickerton 69, 71, A Forsbrand (Swe) 69, 71, P Golding 69, 71, P Affleck 71, 69, M Lorion 70, 70, P-U Johansson (Swe) 69, 71, O Karlsson (Swe) 73, 67, R Clayton 69, 71, J-M Canizares (Sp) 67, 73, L Westwood 68, 72, S Cage 72, 68, L While 71, 69. 141: S Watson 70, 71, D Cooper 72, 69, A Binachi (It) 71, 70, G Brand Jr 69, 72, H Clark 70, 71, M McLean 71, 70, P Broadhurst 69, 72, M Mackenzie 69, 72, I Palmer (SA) 71, 70, P Mitchell 72, 69, M Roe 68, 73

Norman swept aside by flock of birdies

SOUTHERN Africa led Australasia by 6½-1½ after the opening day of the Alfred Dunhill Challenge — a competition based on the Ryder Cup — in Johannesburg yesterday.

Greg Norman was on the receiving end of two brilliant performances by David Frost and Retief Goosen as the home side took control of the inaugural three-day match.

Frost had ten birdies in the morning four-balls as he and Goosen beat Norman and Michael Campbell, of New Zealand, by 3 and 1. Then he and Goosen won their four-ames against Norman and Robert Allenby by the same margin, finishing the match with five successive birdies.

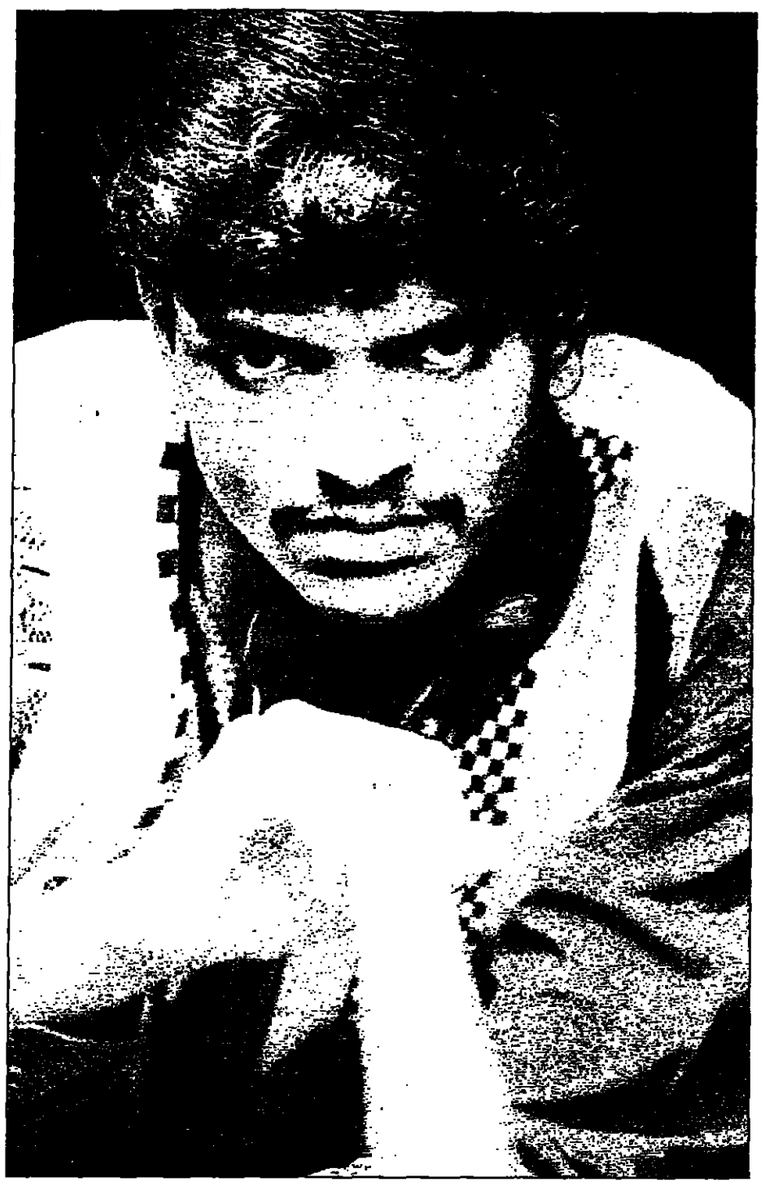
"I putted unbelievably well," Frost said of his four-ball display. I think Greg was a little out of form."

At least Campbell, a 26-year-old Maori, got something out of the day. He was sent out last in the foursomes with Wayne Grady and they halved with Fulton Allem and Wayne Westner. But even that was a disappointment for the visitors. Westner sinking a birdie putt from ten feet on on the last green to tie.

Australasia's only winners were Vijay Singh and Frank Nobilo, who thrashed Allem and Henrik Buhrmann 6 and 5 in the four-balls, which produced 6! birdies and one eagle in the 65 holes played.

Ernie Els, partnered by Tony Johnstone, and the world No 1 Nick Price, paired with Mark McNulty, enjoyed the matchplay experience. "I am sure the opposition are going to come back strongly," Els said.

Champion equal to test



A study in concentration, B Bhaskar, above, was nevertheless unable to prevent defeat, 603-310, at the hands of Peter Gilchrist, the world champion from Stockton, in the UK billiards championship at Wigan yesterday (Phil Yates writes). Gilchrist, 27, who captured the world title in Bombay five months ago, was runner-up in this tournament last year.

More surprising was the defeat for Australia's Robby Foldvari, the 1986 world champion and world No 3, who was beaten, 443-424, by Eugene Hughes, an Irishman, better known for his snooker expertise. Foldvari, winner of the UK championship in 1992 and 1993 and still the only non-British player to capture the title since the event began 61 years ago, was installed as one of the favourites to collect a £7,000 first prize after the unexpected elimination of Mike Russell, the champion, on Thursday. However Hughes, twice a semi-finalist in world-ranking snooker tournaments during the 1980s, recovered from an early 186-point deficit to lead 443-391 when he missed an in-off. Foldvari, made 33 but, only 20 points short of taking the lead, time ran out.

Ashok Shandilya, the Indian railways officer who defeated Russell, maintained his solid form to beat Rex Williams, winner of the world title seven times between 1968 and 1983, 632-371. Shandilya, in his second season as a professional, put the outcome beyond doubt with runs of 207 and 101. Photograph: Barry Greenwood.

The Batley mud means Wigan must tread warily in fifth round

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

A PITCH more suited to truffle hunting than rugby league awaits Wigan at Batley tomorrow and it promises to provide them with one of their trickiest problems in the defence of the Silk Cut Challenge Cup. It also promises to be Batley's greatest ally.

A monument to the endurance of Jeff Grayshon, who has spent the last four of his 45 years mastering the Mount Pleasant slope and mud, the pudding of a pitch has already played its part in cup competition this season, helping Batley to eke out a draw with St Helens in the Regal Trophy two months ago. "Wigan should wipe the floor with us, given their team," Grayshon, Batley's player-coach, said, "but we know every bit of mud and every inch of slope."

Apart from glimpses of green down the flanks, a brown morass confronted Graeme West, the Wigan coach, on a scouting mission ahead of the fifth-round tie. "The groundsman told me there's also a soccer match there today, which I found unbelievable," he said.

As part of a £2 million facelift, including an additional stand, the dreaded slope, which involves a 10ft drop from top to bottom, might be retained. No visiting side, as West will testify, likes playing on it. Heritage is another factor for its preservation, unless civil engineers insist otherwise.

As enduring as the slope is Grayshon, the oldest regular first-team player in the game's history. There have been hints that after 26 seasons in the game — he signed for Dewsbury in 1968 — he might retire. Then again . . .

Despite an element of winding down since assuming the coaching duties from David Ward last October, Grayshon, a former Great Britain prop, retains an appetite that, were he a lesser mortal, might have disappeared a decade ago. "Ambition helps and I've still got that," he said.

Last Sunday, as a late substitute, he helped to maintain Batley's promotion bid, beating Rochdale Hornets. The opposing captain was Grayshon's son, Paul, 26, and he and his two children will be at Batley to see whether grandad can exercise the influence necessary to knock Wigan off their well-worn Wembley trail.

Grayshon is again on the bench, against a Wigan side taking no risks, with only Andy Farrell absent. Batley's conspicuous lack of success in the competition Wigan have dominated for seven years — they last reached the quarter-finals in 1938 — is the least of their problems.

In bridging the division gap, Batley at least will have the advantage of a sell-out 3,800 home crowd, unlike Ryedale-York, who are at Leeds, and Leigh, at Workington Town, although with Keighley and Hull Kingston Rovers at home to Huddersfield and Whitehaven, respectively, the second division is guaranteed two representatives in the last eight.



Jeff Grayshon: rugby's most enduring talent

Warrington, the third-favourites, are unbeaten this season at Wilderspool, a significant factor concerning today's television tie with Oldham, one of two surviving first division clubs never to reach Wembley. The other is Sheffield Eagles, who entertained Widnes. Featherstone Rovers travel to Salford.

☐ Referees are to be given new powers of on-field reporting of players to curb foul play, starting with the Salford v Leeds championship match next Wednesday. Rather than sin-binning or sending-off, it will provide the referee with an option to report any incident he is uncertain of to the Rugby Football League for video analysis.

Hill gets suspension halved

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

ROBERT HILL'S 180-day suspension for a reported violent offence on December 10 last year has been cut to 90 days on appeal. This means that he will be free to play for Yeovil in the Sun Life West hockey league from March 10.

Hill, Great Britain's leading scorer at the 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona, was sent off in the match against Cardiff. After reconsidering the circumstances, the Western Counties Hockey Association decided that, while the original penalty might have been too harsh, a 90-day suspension was the minimum that they could impose.

This weeked, in the men's national league, attention will be focused on the teams at the top of the first division. Guildford, in third place after a 4-1 win last week over Stourport, are at home to Reading tomorrow.

Dick Wright, the Guildford manager, said: "This match will give us some idea of where we are going. Reading have played most of the leading clubs and their run-in is a lot easier. We have yet to play Hounslow and Southgate."

Nick Taylor, the Reading goalkeeper and manager, said: "If we can keep Jennings out, we should have a chance." But they would also be well advised to keep a close watch on Hall, Cartmell and Powell.

The pick of tomorrow's games is at Chigwell, where Old Loughtonians, the leaders, play Teddington. Barker will seek to add to the 11 goals he has scored for Old Loughtonians, but McGuire and Billson will have similar ideas for Teddington.

Although Southgate were held to a 2-2 draw by Canterbury last Sunday, they are still in contention as they visit Indian Gymkhana at Feltham. Heavier physical demands will be made on Cannock, who will be at Surbiton today and Canterbury tomorrow.

Cannock, also still in the frame, will have Hughes-Rowlands back from injury after four months. Mayer, the outside right, has declared his availability for the England tour of Australia in May.

Eyles presented with testing programme

RODNEY EYLES, the Australian squash player, had further tests in the cardiac department of Kingston Hospital yesterday after collapsing at Colets Club on Wednesday evening (Colin McQuillan writes). Eyles is third seed for the British open championship next month and the draw yesterday did him no favours.

Eyles, 27, from Brisbane, drew the German champion, Hansi Wiens, in the first round proper at the Cardiff international arena on March 21. Success could take him on to play the England No 7, Jason Nicolle, the fifth-seeded Scottish champion. Peter Nicol, and the defending champion, Jansher Khan.

Peter Marshall, the British champion, who is the second seed, has drawn the determined New Zealander, Paul Steel, in the first round and would have to deal with Mark Cairns before tackling the Martin brothers, from Australia, or any of the six or more strong British hopes in the same half of the draw.

Another of the Martin family, Michelle, the world champion, will defend the women's title with the top British players, Suzanne Horner and Cassandra Jackman, scheduled to be her final and semi-final opponents.

Horner, hoping to reach the final for the third time, is likely to play Sue Wright, of Kent, in the quarter-finals.

Wind shifts towards Bertrand

FROM BARRY PICKTHALL IN SAN DIEGO

THE America's Cup will be leaving here. That is the conclusion many pundits have drawn after the third round of selection trials was completed yesterday. "The challengers are several minutes faster around the course than the all-women's challenge and neither Dennis Conner nor Kevin Mahaney's rival defence challengers are beating them by anything like the same margins," the British designer, Jim Pugh, said yesterday.

Pugh was a member of Bill Koch's Cup-winning *America³* design team three years ago and he has contributed to the design of John Bertrand's promising challenge with *oneAustralia* for this series. Their latest boat lies second to *Team New Zealand* in the Louis Vuitton Cup and needs to secure only three wins during the final round-robin series starting on March 2 to be assured of a place in the semi-finals.

These teams have proved a class apart from the other challengers, and though the Peter Blake-led *Team New Zealand* remains unbeaten and needs to win only one more race to reach the semi-finals, the sharp money is moving across to the Australians.

This is partly because the New Zealanders have a history in this event of looking good during the initial rounds before wilting under pressure. The Australians, on the other hand, have not yet reached their peak. Their new boat, which competed for the first time in the last Louis Vuitton Cup round was fastest round the 18½-mile course and lost only to the New Zealanders. "We have still a lot to learn about the boat and how to get the most out of her," Rod Davis, *oneAustralia's* helmsman, admitted. "Sometimes she appears faster than the old boat and other times she is slower, but overall she has far greater potential than our earlier design."

Sid Fischer's struggling Australian challenger, *Sydney '95*, suffered a setback yesterday when the helmsman, Colin Beashall, walked out on the team "for personal reasons".

THE TIMES
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FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

EUROPEAN CHAMPION CLUBS' CUP: Semi-final series group: Group A: Maccabi Tel Aviv 86 Benetton 75. Group B: Limoges 83 Bayer Leverkusen 47, Joventut Badalona 60 Bologna 81. Cibona Zagreb 73 Efes Pilsen 59. Barcelona 73 Olympiakos 64; Real Madrid 66 Panathinaikos 68

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Derby 94 (Belka 22, Gardiner 19, Lascelles 16) Leicester 82 (Tresvant 26, Harris 18, Roper 16) (OT).

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Boston 119 Orlando 117; New York 103 Sacramento 90; Houston 110 Detroit 99; Atlanta 110 Dallas 92; Denver 105 Philadelphia 75

BILLIARDS

WIGAN: Strachan UK professional championship: Second round: B Close (Eng) bt J Caven (Scot) 679-239, I Williamson (Eng) bt D Heald (Eng) 465-246, C Everton (Wales) bt M Kothari (India) 462-309, N Patel (India) bt J Bodle (Eng) 536-409, P Gilchrist (Eng) bt B Bhaskar (India) 603-310.

BOWLS

PRESTON: Churchill Insurance world indoor championships: Pairs: Quarter-final: G Smith and A Thomson (Eng) bt H Dutt and D Miller (Scot) 7-2, 7-4, 7-2. Semi-final: R Corsie and A Marshall (Scot) bt C Curtis and I Schuback (Aust) 7-4, 7-2, 7-2. Singles: Quarter-final: A Allcock (Eng) bt H Dutt (Scot) 7-1, 7-3, 4-7, 3-7, 7-6. Semi-final: A Thomson (Eng) bt A Allcock (Eng) 5-7 7-6 6-7 7-5 7-4

BOXING

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE LEISURE CENTRE: Southern area heavyweight championship (vacant, 10rnds): Julius Francis (Woolwich) bt Damian Caesar (Stepney) rsc 8th. Southern area cruiserweight championship (vacant, 10rnds): Chris Okoh (Croydon) bt Paul Lawson (Bethnal Green) rsc 5th. super-bantam (8rnds): Paul Ingle (Scarborough) bt Peter Buckley (Birmingham) pts. cruiser (4rnds): John Petterson (Swe) bt Nicky Wadman (Brighton) rsc 3rd

CRICKET

NEW PLYMOUTH: New Zealand: Tour match (one day): New Zealand Academy 41 101-5 v Sri Lankans. Match abandoned

Centenary one-day international series

New Zealand v South Africa

CHRISTCHURCH (South Africa won toss): New Zealand beat South Africa by 46 runs

NEW ZEALAND

M J Greatbatch c and b Cronje	76
M Douglas lbw Matthews	8
*K R Rutherford c Callaghan b Cronje	61
S P Fleming c Cullinan b Matthews	21
C L Cairns c Jurgsen b Matthews	33
S A Thomson c Richardson b De Villiers	5
†A C Parore not out	30
J T Vaughan run out	7
G R Larsen not out	2
Extras (lb 2, w 1, nb 2)	5
Total, (7 wkts)	249

C Pringle, D K Morrison did not bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-28, 2-126, 3-167, 4-172, 5-190, 6-227

BOWLING: de Villiers 10-0-39-1, Matthews 10-1-49-3, Donald 10-0-50-0, Simons 6-0-33-0, Callaghan 4-0-26-0, Cronje 10-0-50-2.

AUSTRALIA

A C Hudson c Douglas b Morrison	10
G Jurgsen c Fleming b Thomson	63
D J Cullinan c Vaughan b Larsen	13
*W J Cronje stpd Parore b Vaughan	34
J Rhodes c Greatbatch b Morrison	14
D J Callaghan lbw Larsen	23
†D J Richardson c Thomson b Vaughan	7
E O Simons c Greatbatch b Vaughan	7
C Matthews b Larsen	16
P S de Villiers c Thomson b Pringle	7
A A Donald not out	0
Extras (b 1, lb 4, w 4)	9
Total	203

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-28, 2-67, 3-117, 4-138, 5-143, 6-162, 7-173, 8-190, 9-197

BOWLING: Pringle 8-0-35-1, Morrison 8-1-30-2, Vaughan 10-0-37-3, Cairns 4-0-24-0, Larsen 10-0-39-3, Thomson 7-0-33-1

CYCLING

TOUR OF VALENCIA: Second stage: 15-km time trial: 1, A Zuelle (Switz) 18min 47sec, 2, L Jalabert (Fr) 10sec behind, 3, R Sorensen (Den) 15; 4, A Olano (Sp) 31, 5, M Cipollini (It) 31, 6, G Bugno (It) 35, 7, G Pierobon (It) 36, 8, M Maum (Sp) 39, 9, L Armstrong (US) 40. Overall: 1, Zuelle 7hr 9mn 56sec, 2, Jalabert 10sec behind, 3 Sorensen 15, 4, Olano 31, 5, Cipollini 31, 6, Bugno 36

FOOTBALL

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Luton 4 Bristol City 1, Tottenham 5 Chelsea 1

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division, Postponed: Liverpool v Coventry. Second division: Middlesbrough 1 Manchester City 0

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Petersfield 3 Eastleigh 4

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE. First division: Postponed: Langney Sports v Eastbourne Town

FRENCH LEAGUE: Paris Saint-German 4 Lyon 1; St Etienne 1 Nantes 1

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Brazil 5 Slovakia 0

KINGS CUP: Group B, first round: Thailand 8 4 Russia 2 (in Bangkok)

DYNASTY CUP: Round robin stage (in Hong Kong): China 1 Japan 2 (Japan qualify for final)

LIBERTADORES CUP: Group one: Penarol (Uru) 1 Independiente (Arg) 2.

WOMEN'S EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS: Semi-final, second leg: Germany 2 England 1 (Germany win 6-2 on agg) (in Bochum)

GOLF

JOHANNESBURG: Allied Dunhill Challenge. Southern Africa v Australasia: (Southern African names first). Four-balls: N Price and M McNulty bt W Grady and L Parsons, 2 and 1, E Els and A Johnstone bt R Allenby and M Clayton one hole, R Goosen and D Frost bt G Norman and M Campbell 3 and 1, F Allem and H Buhrmann lost to V Singh and F Nobilo 6 and 5. Foursomes: Els and Johnstone bt Singh and Nobilo 4 and 3, Price and McNulty bt Clayton and G Turner 3 and 2; Goosen and Frost bt Norman and Allenby 3 and 1, Allem and W Westner halved with Grady and Campbell. Southern Africa lead Australasia by 6½-pts to 1½.

PACIFIC PALISADES, California: Nissan Open: First-round scores (US unless stated): 66: B Mayfair, J Mudd. 67: B Kamm, J Furyk, C Stadler, C Pavin, L Wadkins, B Faxon, J Daly. 68: S Pate, S Ellington (Aus), J Carter, O Uresti, D Hammond, DA Weibring, B Estes, T Clearon. 69: R Freeman, J Leonard, M Reid, J Haas, P Jacobsen, D Love, H Irwin, F Couples, M Wiebe, D Feherty (GB), S Lowery, J D Blake, M Standly, T Loustalot

SYDNEY: Men's tournament. Second-round scores (Australia unless stated) 137: G Joyner 70, 67. G Kenny 69, 68. T Elliot 68, 69. 138: on Fardon 68, 70. C Parry 69, 69. 139: R Backwell 71, 68. 140: D Armstrong 70, 70, L Wastle 70, 70, Peter Senior 70, 70, S Scahill (NZ) 70, 70, W Smith 72, 68

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Montreal 5 Florida 2, Boston 3 New Jersey 2, Tampa Bay 4 NY Islanders 1, Toronto 3 Anaheim 1, Philadelphia 6 Quebec 5 (OT), Washington 5 Ottawa 5 (OT), Detroit 4 Chicago 2, Calgary 3 Los Angeles 3 (OT)

REAL TENNIS

HAMPTON COURT: British Land world championship (national elimination): Second day: C Bray bt J Snow 6-5, 6-5, 6-5, 0-6. Overall score, C Bray leads J Snow by six sets to two, 3-6, 6-5, 6-5, 6-1, 6-5, 6-5, 6-5, 0-6

ROWING

OXFORD UNIVERSITY TORPIDS: Bumps: Men: First division: University bpd Pembroke; Christ Church bpd Worcester. Second division: Oriel II bpd Lady Margaret Hall Women: First division: Osler House bpd Somerville, Wadham bpd St Catherine's. TODAY'S STARTING ORDER: Men: First division: Oriel, Brasenose, University, Pembroke, Magdalen and Christ Church. Second division: Worcester, New College, St Edmund Hall, St Catherine's, Balliol, Oriel II. Third division: Lady Margaret Hall, Lincoln, Wadham, Wolfson, Hertford, Exeter. Fourth division: St John's, Jesus, Queen's, Keble, St Peter's, Christ Church II. Fifth division: Trinity, Osler House, St Hugh's, Merton, University II, Oriel III. Sixth division: Balliol II, Linacre, Pembroke II, New College II, St Anne's, Worcester II, Mansfield. Women: First division: Osler House, Somerville, New College, Wadham, St Catherine's, University. Second division: Christ Church, Pembroke, Oriel, St Hilda's, Lady Margaret Hall, Trinity. Third division: Worcester, St Anne's, Brasenose, St John's, Jesus, Wolfson. Fourth division: Lincoln, Hertford, St Edmund Hall, Somerville II, Queen's, Merton. Fifth division: Keble, Magdalen, Balliol, Linacre, Exeter, Osler House II, St Peter's

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	U	Conditions Piste	Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Igls	10	70	good	varied	fair	cloud	5	23/2
(Good skiing despite high winds)								
Kitzbühel	30	125	good	varied	fair	cloud	4	23/2
(Excellent skiing generally; fresh snow on varied base)								
Mayrhofen	10	90	good	varied	closed	cloud	3	23/2
(Good skiing but windy; snow forecast)								
FRANCE								
Les Arcs	165	420	powder	powder	powder	snow	-3	24/2
(Snowing all day; deep snow everywhere)								
Chamonix	120	640	powder	powder	powder	snow	-1	24/2
(Heavy snowfalls: skiing limited by too much snow)								
La Plagne	205	370	powder	powder	good	snow	-2	24/2
(Deep powder everywhere; excellent prospects)								
Megève	110	280	powder	powder	powder	snow	1	24/2
(Piste machines unable to cope with snowfalls)								
SWITZERLAND								
Mürren	105	200	good	powder	good	snow	0	24/2
(Superb powder skiing; heavy snowfalls all day)								
St Moritz	70	125	good	powder	good	snow	-2	24/2
(All pistes in excellent condition)								
Zermatt	85	330	powder	powder	good	snow	1	24/2
(Superb powder skiing; few people about because of snowfall)								

Source, Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

SQUASH

CALCUTTA: Stroh's Open: First round: S Frenz (Ger) bt P Gurrier (Eng) 15-13, 15-5, 15-8, M Chaloner (Eng) bt G Rowlands (Aus) 15-3, 15-11, 15-13; C Wagnuck (SA) bt J White (Aus) 15-14, 15-9, 9-15, 15-8, F Uzcandizaga (Arg) bt K Peltonen (Fin) 15-7, 15-10, 8-15, 15-11, A Hill (Aus) bt D Evans (Wales) 15-11, 15-4, 15-9. Second round: P Steele (NZ) bt D Preece (UAE) 15-8, 15-7, 10-15, 15-6; M Chaloner (Eng) bt A Baraclo (Egypt) 14-15, 15-8, 15-7, 15-4, M Calma (Eng) bt S Castelyn (Bel) 15-10, 15-7, 15-8, F Uzcandizaga (Arg) bt P Whitlock (Eng) 7-15, 1-15, 15-12, 15-6, 15-11, S Meads (Eng) bt T Garner (Eng) 15-8, 15-10, 15-11, L Burt (Holl) bt D Jansen (Aus) 16-17, 15-8, 10-15, 15-7, 15-3; C Wagnuck (SA) bt D Harris (Eng) 13-15, 15-17, 17-16, 15-8, 15-10.

STUDENT SPORT

JACA, Spain: Winter World Student Games: Skating: Pairs: 1, M Khaliurina and A Kryukov (Kaz) 1.5 factored pts; 2, D Zagorska and M Sudek (Pol) 3.5, 3, A Ottner and D Cox (US) 4.0, 4, D Piepenbrink and N Castaneda (US) 5.5; 5, I Mykilna and A Mimn (Rus) 7.0. Speed Skating: Short-track: Men: 500m: 1, A Quinn (Can) 44 40 1,500m: 1, Ji Hoon Chae (S Kor) 2:41.24. Women: 500m: 1, Zhang Dong baang (China) 46 14. 1,500m: 1, Lee Kyung Chun (S Kor) 2:27 38 (world record). Skiing: Men's giant slalom: 1, A Wiggerud (Swe) 2:14.25. Nordic combined: 1, S Zakharenko (Belo) 205.0 jump points, 41mn 20 8sec, 41:44 8 handicapped time. Nordic skiing: Women (15km): 1, O Kosnacheva (Russ) 48min 20 6sec. Ice hockey: Semi-finals: Kazakhstan 4 Finland 2, Czech Republic 4 Russia 3

TENNIS

PHILADELPHIA: Men's tournament (US unless stated) Second round: J Stark bt P Rafter (Aus) 6-3, 4-8, 6-2; R Renaberg bt L Jensen 7-5, 7-5; P Haarhuis (Holl) bt P Sampras 6-4, 6-4; M Chang bt J Grabb 7-6, 7-5

STUTTGART: Men's tournament: Quarter-finals: M Damm (Cz) bt J Siemerink (Holl) 6-4, 6-4, R Krajcek (Holl) bt M Larsson (Swe) 6-3, 6-7, 7-6.

VIENNA: Women's tournament: Second round: S Appelmans (Bel) bt M Schnell (Austria) 4-6, 6-3, 6-4. Third round: N Dahlmann (Fin) bt A Carlsson (Swe) 6-2, 3-6, 6-4, M Babel (Ger) bt K Habsudova (Slovakia) 6-4, 6-2, B Reinstadler (Austria) bt K Buche (Austria) 6-4, 6-7, 6-4; P Schwarz-Reiter (Austria) bt M McGrath (US) 6-2, 1-6, 7-5

EASTBOURNE: LTA men's satellite tournament: Quarter-finals: R Matheson (GB) bt J Pekkan (Cz) 2-6, 7-6, 7-6, T Johansson (Swe) bt A Richardson (GB) 7-6, 6-2; A Strambini (Switz) bt T Iskola (Fin) 3-6, 6-2, 7-5, M Navarra (It) bt B Cowan (GB) 7-6, 6-7, 6-4

YACHTING

SAN DIEGO: Citizen Cup (defender's series): Young America (K Mahaney) bt America³ (L Egnot) by 1min 19sec. Standings: 1, Young America 25pts, 2, Stars & Stripes 21; 3, America³ 7

BOC CHALLENGE (Solo round-the-world race): Leading positions (at 08 00GMT yesterday with miles to Punta del Este, Uruguay). Class one: 1, Sceta Calberson (C Auguin, Fr) 432 miles, 2, Vendée Enterprises (J van den Heede, Fr) 842, 3, Hunter's Child (S Pettengill, USA) 937; 4, Novell South Africa (J Provoyeur, SA) 1,131, 5, Coyote (D Scully, USA) 1,159; 6, Thursday's Child (A Taylor, USA) 2,086. Class two: True Blue (D Adams, Aus) 1,053, 2, Kodak (G Soldini, It) 1,127; 3, Jim Roda II (C Vaughan, GB) 2,166, 4, Newcastle Australia (A Nebauer, Aus) 2,423, 5, Cornwall (R Davis, GB) 3,163, 6, Henry Hornblower (H Mitchell, GB) 3,692; 7, Shuten-dony II (M Saito, Japan) 3,710.

Suspension is extended as errant Frenchman warned over future conduct

Cantona put on probation by FA

By Rob Hughes
Football Correspondent

ERIC CANTONA will reappear on the playing fields of England in the autumn. He has been granted that licence, that opportunity to atone for his misdemeanours at Selhurst Park last month, by the disciplinary committee of the Football Association.

When they met the errant Manchester United footballer at a country hotel in St Albans yesterday, we are told by his lawyer that he showed contrition, regret and made a genuine apology for his two-footed "kung fu" kick at an abusive Crystal Palace supporter. But before the assembled members of the world's media, he sat as silent and unmoved as the sphinx. He had nothing to say, we found him as unfathomable in facial expression as his skills and his moods have proved unfathomable at play.

Some in the room with him wanted him drummed out of the game for life. But they, who scented blood, were disappointed when the FA, after three hours of deliberation, merely added punishments that were a gesture, a flexing of authority's muscle.

The committee of three — Geoff Thompson, JP, of Sheffield, Ian Stott, chairman of Oldham Athletic, and Gordon McKeag, president of the Football League — extended the suspension which Manchester United had pre-empted on their star, taking it from the end of this season to the end of September. They also added a fine of £10,000 to the fine of two weeks' wages that the club had imposed (presumed to be £20,000), asked Fifa, the governing body of world football, to make the ban worldwide and warned Cantona as to his future conduct.

In other words, he is on probation for his footballing career. That is as it should be. I personally have no time, no hunger, for an authoritative reaction that would deprive Cantona of the basic right, part and parcel of the principle on which we live our daily lives, that if we make a crass error, it is incumbent on us to try to redeem that in the public eye.

Weak? Possibly so, but we live in a football atmosphere that condones a monster of the professional footballing world like Vinnie Jones, and yet seeks to pillory beyond reason a player of mercurial, sometimes intolerable, extremes such as Cantona.

He, at least, has the other side to his character that lifts the game with his expression, his inspiration, his beauty in the sporting sense. If ever he were to repeat his assault on a spectator, he knows that the curtain would fall. He gave, apparently, an undertaking yesterday, that it will never happen again.

When the disciplinary commission's work was done, when Cantona faced the press, he was flanked not only by the chief executive of the FA, not only by his indulgent manager at Manchester United, but also by two lawyers.

It seemed quite incredible that here was a human being, lauded above the status of one who possesses only two legs, attracting all the clamour and the hype of a Hollywood set. When the black limousine, driven by Ned Kelly, Manchester United's chief security officer, arrived, a locust of photographers swarmed towards it. Alex Ferguson, the United manager, got out and held the rear door open for Cantona; and he, shoulders squared back as ever, the stride arrogant, the head aloft, simply ignored them.

When he emerged into the interview room, he was to sit in front of a blue backcloth, the crest of the three rampant lions of England perched on his right shoulder. The dark eyes of Cantona surveyed the media circus in front of him; occasionally those eyes looked down. But the arms remained folded, there was never a gesture nor a hint of what was going through the mind.

His time may come in a court of law. For the police have properly summonsed him for common assault, and in a courtroom that cannot threaten his livelihood, he may deign to speak for himself.

Meanwhile, his silence is neither golden nor total. There is much talk of how much this suspension will cost him: in fines, so far, it is £30,000. Since Manchester United will pay his basic salary, but not any match bonuses, the 30 matches he will now miss, could double the penalty. Cantona will also miss France's next four European championship qualifying matches and has been stripped of the captaincy. We are not told whether he would qualify for any end-of-season bonus should United win the League and/or FA Cup, but in any case finance is not Eric Cantona's sole god.

Even if it were, we are naive to think that he is incapable, during enforced athletic idleness, of recouping his losses. Nike, the American sports outfitter, which had before the rumpus used an advertisement which glorified the rebellious side of Cantona, waited scarcely two days after the Selhurst Park incident to make another one.

In that soon-to-be-released French television commercial, Cantona says: "Why should I let myself be insulted just because I'm on the playing field?". The commercial centres on issues of racism, violence, and hate in the stadiums. Nothing could excuse his hot-headed response at Selhurst Park, but Graham Kelly, the FA chief executive, pointedly stated yesterday: "We are concerned about the increasing level of abuse which footballers seem to have to suffer. We don't feel it is acceptable, we don't think it is part of the game, and we hope to talk to leading politicians about an initiative to deal with it."

And by the time Cantona returns, one hopes there is an initiative from within the game, led by the Professional Footballers' Association, to prevent the taunts, the provocation, the contrived cheating which all too evidently has been used to rile Cantona, and will, under the present malign system, be used again.



Cantona looks on impassively after hearing the punishment meted out by an FA disciplinary committee at St Albans yesterday. Photograph: Simon Walker

MODERN RECORD PUNISHMENTS

8½ MONTHS: Billy McLafferty, of Stenhousemuir, suspended for failing to appear at a disciplinary hearing after being sent off in 1993. He was also fined £250.

6 MONTHS: Eric Cantona, of Manchester United, suspended for attacking a spectator after being sent off at Crystal Palace in January 1995. Fined £10,000.

12 MATCHES: Duncan Ferguson, of Rangers, suspended after violent conduct in 1994. The ban has still to be served.

9 MATCHES: Paul Davis, of Arsenal, suspended after a punch broke Glenn Cockerill's jaw in 1988. He was also fined £3,000.

9 MATCHES: Steve Walsh, of Leicester City, suspended for his poor disciplinary record in 1987.

9 MATCHES: Frank Sinclair, of Chelsea, suspended after a clash of heads with a referee while on loan to West Bromwich Albion in 1992 and fined £600.

£20,000: Vinnie Jones, of Wimbledon, fined for producing a video extolling foul play in 1992. He was also given a suspended six-month ban.

Anxious Clark wants to leave Newcastle

By Peter Ball

THE changes at Newcastle United are gathering pace. Yesterday, Alex Mathie, the Scottish forward, joined Ipswich Town and Lee Clark, their England Under-21 midfield player, is poised to follow Andy Cole out of St James' Park after turning down the offer of a new, two-year contract.

Once regarded as the outstanding member of a talented group of young players, Clark, Newcastle's player of the year in their promotion season, lost his place in the side last season, a foot injury keeping him out until October last year. Since his recovery, he has been unable to command a regular place in the side and he wanted assurances of a place before discussing a new contract.

"It will be a big wrench to leave the club," Clark said, "but it has become increasingly difficult to accept that I have to fight for a place on the bench, never mind in the team."

"I can understand his reasons," Keegan said. "If I was in his situation, I probably would have reacted the same way. His problem is that he is up against Peter Beardsley and Robert Lee, two England men."

If Clark does go, Newcastle will want more than £2 million. With £6 million from the Cole transfer, and the sale of Alex Mathie to Ipswich bringing in £500,000 yesterday, Keegan is building up a ready reserve of cash for an entry into the transfer market.

Last night, he went to watch Christophe Dubarry, the Bordeaux striker, against Sochaux, and tomorrow he travels to Spain to survey the talent there. Nevertheless, he insisted that the money is not burning a hole in his pocket.

"I'm window shopping," he said. "I'm not going to be like a pools winner and buy the first thing I see."

Burnley, who are next to bottom in the Endsleigh Insurance League first division after seven successive defeats, signed Steve Thompson, the Leicester City and former Bolton midfield player, and the striker, Kurt Nogan, from Brighton for a total of £500,000 yesterday. Notts County, the only team below Burnley in the first division, were also active, signing Kevin Russell from Bournemouth for £60,000.

Rough diamond, page 43
Everton's test, page 43

Pakistan pair end their Test careers

By Simon Wilde

PAKISTAN'S cricket tour of southern Africa was thrown into further confusion yesterday when two of the party's 16 members announced that they had retired from the international game.

Rashid Latif, vice-captain and first-choice wicketkeeper, is 26. Basit Ali, a talented middle-order batsman, 24. They are of an age at which only swimmers and tennis players usually consider new careers.

The pair broke the news after the rest of the party had returned to Harare from a trip to Victoria Falls. Intikhab Alam, the Pakistan manager, said that the announcement had come as a surprise. "It is very unfortunate," he added, "but they say they are not enjoying international cricket any more."

The announcements, with only two one-day fixtures and five days of the tour remaining, may have been a surprise to Intikhab but it was not unexpected by others.

Rashid is believed to have been only narrowly dissuaded from leaving the tour earlier on and is known to have rowed with his captain, Salim Malik, over tactics during the Mandela Trophy last month.

Reasons for Rashid's retirement, however, are not confined to "not enjoying international cricket". Also relevant is that Pakistan's players — notably Salim — are believed to be at the centre of allegations being investigated by the Pakistan Cricket Board of attempted match-rigging.

Rashid has, according to Sarfraz Nawaz, the former Test fast bowler, accused nine of his colleagues of accepting bribes.

Salim vigorously denies accepting or offering bribes and one member of the tour party, who preferred to remain anonymous yesterday, said that Rashid and Basit would have been "sacked" on returning home in any case, along with three others in the team.

Aamir Sohail, the opening batsman, was reported as saying last week: "If I wasn't bound by a code of conduct, I could name so many players in the present national team who have been bribed to lose matches. It's getting so bad that it's getting all the guys who don't do it a bad name." He later denied making the remarks.

If there is opportunism at work in some of the actions and words of Pakistan players — Rashid and Basit faxed their decisions not only to the Pakistan board but also to a domestic news agency — it would hardly be surprising. Salim got his first chance in Test cricket in 1982 during a revolt against Javed Miandad's leadership and inherited the captaincy early last year after another against Wasim Akram's.

If Rashid thinks he can gain from Salim's troubles, he might well be right.

Umpire objects, page 42

Benn eager for good 'tear-up'



Srikumar Sen feels the quick-fire McClellan has the credentials to secure an explosive win over Benn

NIGEL BENN is on a mission impossible defending his World Boxing Council super-middleweight title against Gerald McClellan at the London Arena tonight — if the experts are to be believed. Being 31, battle weary and having a chin that has often looked fragile, they believe Benn will be stopped by McClellan inside six rounds.

McClellan has knocked out 29 of his 33 opponents; 31 of those wins were inside three rounds, 20 coming in the first. Only four bouts have gone the distance (eight rounds) and of those, he has lost two early in his career.

McClellan said: "If this guy beats me, look what I'm going to lose. My kids can't get everything they want. So, to me, this guy is taking food off my kids' table. I can't describe how hungry I am going into a fight, so determined."

To reinforce this, the American, who owns seven pit-bulls, likens himself in savagery to his dogs. "Pit-bulls hate. Me in the ring with another fighter, is like a pit-bull seeing another animal. When I'm in the ring I have so much hate for the other guy so much desire to knock this guy unconscious. It's a great feeling for me to knock a man unconscious and watch them fall. I enjoy the feeling better than sex."

No wonder the bookmakers have made McClellan 5-2 on and in the round-by-round betting, while McClellan is between 7-1 and 10-1 to finish off Benn in the first four rounds, Benn is 40-1 to do the same to McClellan. In later rounds McClellan is 20-1, Benn 50-1.

Mickey Duff, the promoter has put £100 on each of the first five rounds at 10-1 a round for McClellan to win and it is rumoured that Frank Warren, another London promoter, has bet £4,000 that Benn will fall in four rounds. It looks so simple to cash in on McClellan wrapping it up in six rounds. But then nothing was more simple than Mike Tyson beating James "Buster" Douglas.

Benn, who weighed in on the 12st limit, 3lb heavier than McClellan, rightly points out there are some doubts about the kind of opposition McClellan has been seeing off.

None of McClellan's middleweight championship opponents was in good enough shape to cause him serious trouble, though Julian Jackson did go five rounds, flooring McClellan first and then being put down himself. The second encounter with Jackson lasted one round. Jackson cannot see well. Because of an eye operation, he is not allowed to box in Britain.

John Mugabi, whom McClellan beat to win the World Boxing Organisation title, was shot to pieces. It needed just one blow in the first round to knock the Ugandan over. Gilbert Baptiste was an old man, and Jeffery Bell was no more than a journeyman. Most of McClellan's pre-championship contests were against little-known light-middleweights.

Further, the American is thought not to be the best of trainers. At the Kronk Gym in Detroit, his attitude to training did not please Emanuel Steward.

However, there is little doubt that he is a boxer of the highest class. Steward, who no longer has McClellan, said he has "more natural talent than anyone I've ever worked with". McClellan has the rare gift of being able to box as well as he can punch.

All of which makes it very difficult for Benn to know which strategy to follow. Go in and try to bomb the challenger out and risk getting caught himself, or box, hoping to take McClellan past the eighth round for the first time in his career.

The feeling is that Benn will do what he does best: go in straight away for an explosive opening. He is likely to come off worse. Benn's camp says he will box: "Take him to school, then knock him out late in the fight."

A quick ending in McClellan's favour seems the most likely outcome, but Benn has been unaffected by solid blows from punchers such as Chris Eubank, so one should not be surprised if Benn does not collapse in a heap as a result of a punch-up.

Benn had been bedevilled with legal and training problems: he parted company with his former trainer, Jimmy Tibbs, and found himself in court over an action brought by his first trainer, Brian Lynch. But Benn says the distractions have not affected his concentration and is looking forward to a "tear-up".



Benn, left, set to take on McClellan, knockout specialist

People's champion, page 42

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Driving safely with the strong silent type

Page 12

CAR 95

Why lucky chauffeurs have fat dogs and good wives

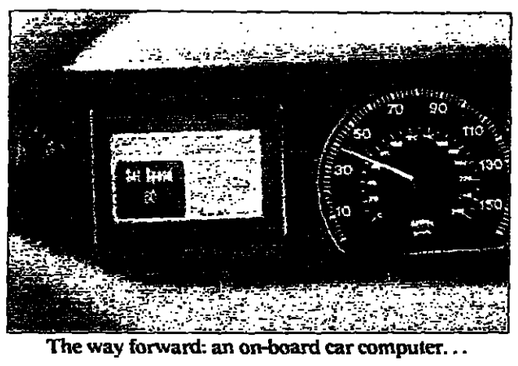
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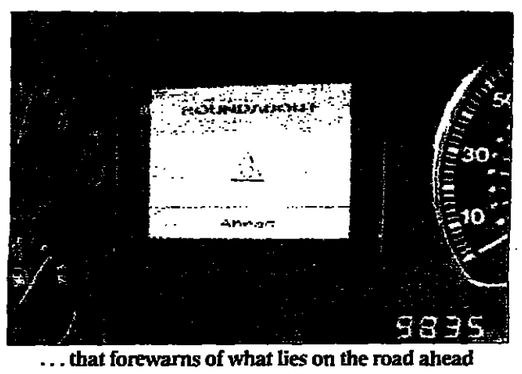
SATURDAY FEBRUARY 25 1995

The experimental Jaguar that drives itself is not the first of its kind. **Kevin Eason** reveals . . .

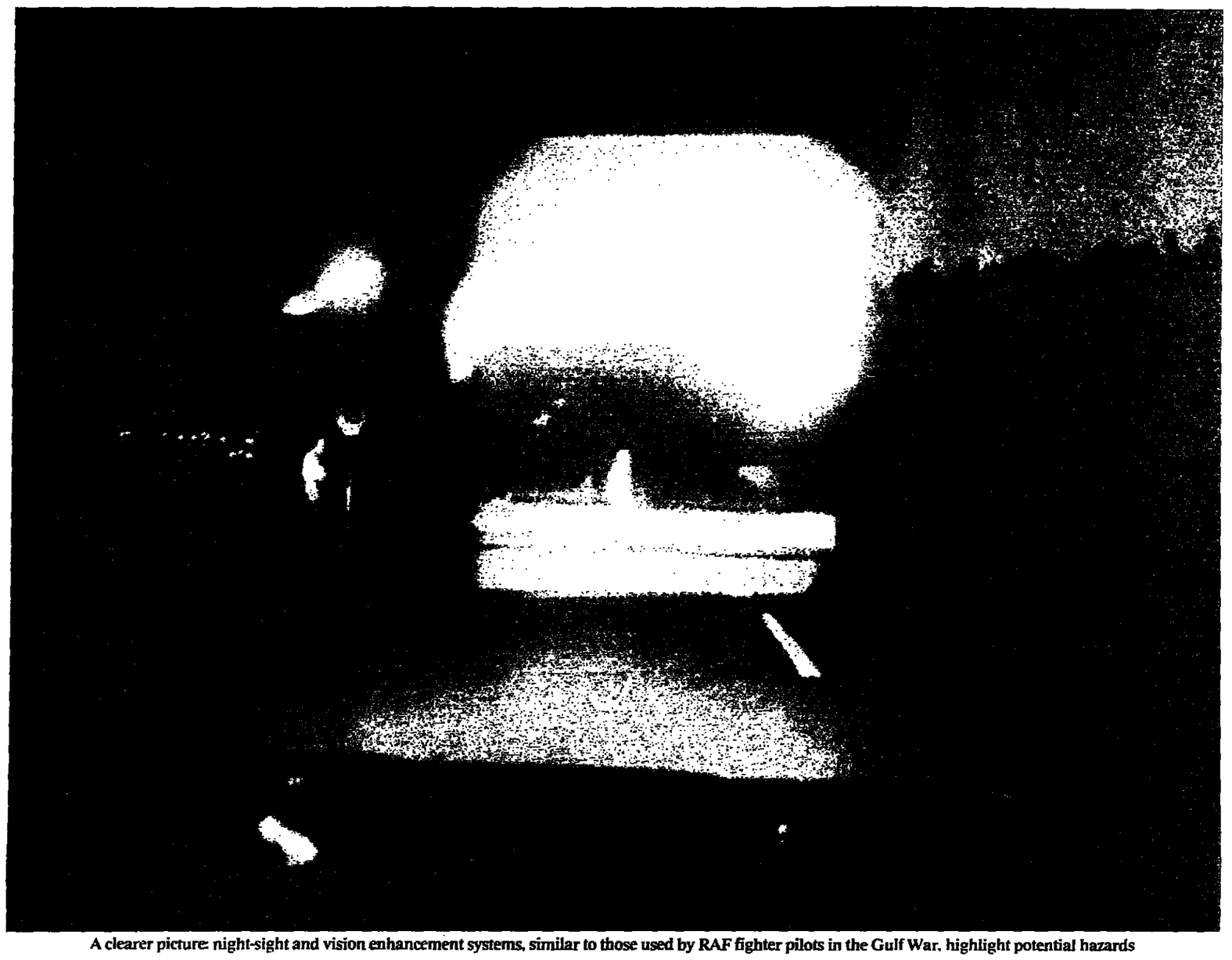
How we crashed out of the fast lane



The way forward: an on-board car computer. . .



. . . that forewarns of what lies on the road ahead



A clearer picture: night-sight and vision enhancement systems, similar to those used by RAF fighter pilots in the Gulf War, highlight potential hazards

Many of the motoring miracles of tomorrow were pioneered by British scientists three decades ago

The technology is pure Dan Dare: cars that steer and brake for themselves, eliminating the catastrophic errors of human drivers that cost lives every day on Britain's roads. Carmakers say that even their most humble runabouts could be using this life-saving equipment within five years.

Yet it might have been with us now, had government scientists been allowed to continue pioneering experiments that could have made Britain a world leader in the technology of safe driving.

David Hunt, the minister for science, announced this week that £100 million is to be put into research to make Britain a leader in "high technology road vehicle manufacturing" by the year 2015. The research is vital because the market for computer-guided controls could be worth £3 billion a year and employ 140,000 workers within a decade.

The technology will allow drivers to "see" in the dark, using night sights like those used on RAF fighters, while their cars will almost "think" for themselves, braking and steering and keeping a safe distance from other vehicles while guided to their destinations by satellites.

It is the Brave New World of motoring. But the irony of the announcement will not be lost on the generation of scientists who, 30 years ago, designed and fitted cars with the technology now being hailed as vital in the drive to the future.

They were working at the government's own Transport Research Laboratory (TRL) and calculated that their inventions would allow a 50 per cent increase in traffic on motorways and main roads. At the same time they would cut accidents by 40 per cent, mainly by eradicating driver error, which is responsible for about seven in ten accidents. If TRL's estimates were applied to today's roads, 800 lives might be saved every year.

Even the investment in equipment would have been repaid by the end of the century, the scientists claimed. But we never had the chance to find out whether Britain could have become a high-technology motoring Utopia.

Why the experiments ended, nobody seems to know; but the likely reason is that governments of the 1970s were more consumed with panic over the economy than inspired by cars bristling with gadgets, no matter how worthwhile. And even if it worked, where would the money have come from to put the technology into operation?

The fact that carmakers today are perfecting equipment long ago dreamed up by the TRL team underlines just how remarkable their research was.

When the TRL's Crowthorne laboratory in Berkshire was built in 1960, Britain was the third biggest car producer in the world behind only the United States and Germany. We made models envied and copied in other nations and confidently exported around the world. It was the time when Harold Wilson dreamed of the "white heat" of technology and British inventions led the world.

At Crowthorne, scientists were inspired by the idea of high-speed motorways carrying cars and lorries in complete safety, with drivers doing little more than deciding where they wanted to go . . . then listening to the radio.

They installed two electrical cables beneath the surface of a four-mile test track, which are still there today. The cables carried signals which allowed cars to run mile after mile along the same steady track, without the driver needing to twitch a muscle. One driver was able to read a newspaper while the laboratory's Citroen DS19, regarded as the world's first car to "fly-by-wire", lapped the Crowthorne track at 80mph for hours on end with no loss of control.

Cars, which later included a Mini and a Ford Cortina MkII, could also pick up traffic information, relayed to the driver to warn of jams and hazards — similar to information relayed now to drivers who subscribe to the Traffic*master* network.

On open days, the TRL Cortina was allowed to show off, taking passengers in the rear seats — but with no driver up front. The prospect might have seemed terrifying to those taking part at the time but the technology was proving itself, while the philosophy was simple — and one which has been touted with great enthusiasm by today's carmakers and politicians.



Mirror lights warn of being too close to the car ahead

The Crowthorne team reasoned that if cars could travel in convoy, at a safe distance from each other, in what amounts to a "road train", driver and passengers could arrive quickly and safely while roads could cope with more traffic.

The system was hampered only by the lack of supercomputers able to process the vast amount of information needed to run miles of busy motorways, although as we now know, the development and rapid miniaturisation of such electronic "brains" soon followed.



Time for a read: but this car was travelling at 80mph

Before the TRL could take advantage of that advance, the plug was pulled. Adrian Roberts, a first-year student when TRL first ran its fly-by-wire car and now a scientific officer in the vehicle engineering department, says: "We worked on these schemes until the late 1970s but then I suppose the money wasn't there and the whole thing was given up.

"There were problems, but we did show that you could have a car which effectively did not need a driver and we believed that could reduce accidents."

Today, the age of microtechnology means the TRL dream of three decades ago will be with us soon. For example, Ford, and its Jaguar subsidiary, has 3,000 engineers at its Dunton research centre in Essex working on more than 100 projects — some of which bear an uncanny resemblance to the TRL experiments.

A Jaguar XJ6 noses through busy traffic, demanding an act of faith in the driver to take his hands off the wheel. But senior engineer Wiesiek Chodyniecki explains how a tiny windscreen-mounted video camera monitors the road's white lines, detects when the car is drifting out of its lane and steers it back on course.

Meanwhile, radar, mounted behind the front number plate, watches the cars in front. Known as Intelligent Cruise Control, the system keeps the Jaguar at a safe distance, even when the vehicle ahead slows or speeds up. If another car cuts in, the Jaguar locks on to the new "target" and adjusts position. Approach too close and a warning horn sounds, then the accelerator pedal begins to give increasing resistance to the right foot. In the danger zone, the car automatically applies the brakes to keep the Jag a safe two seconds travel time behind the vehicle ahead.

Ford says the equipment is the way ahead and will come at a time when cars will be made not of steel but of aluminium, will be glued together not welded, and even the most humble Fiesta could sound more like a Ferrari because of a computer capable of tuning the note of the exhaust pipe.

Aluminium-bodied cars held together with three kilograms of Araldite bonding will be a third lighter and 30 per cent stronger than today's steel cars. The Araldite adhesive has been developed by Ciba Polymers for Ford's Aluminium-Intensive Vehicle. Nik Zepf, of Ciba, forecasts that Ford will make a mass-produced Scorpio-sized car in aluminium within 10 years and a Fiesta-sized aluminium car within 15 years.

Because they will be so much lighter, they could be more environmentally friendly, using 20 per cent less fuel — if they use petrol at all. Future cars, if not battery-powered, will probably be hybrids, using dual power sources, such as electrical power in town and a diesel or petrol engine for motorway journeys.

The Ford hybrid car, for instance, which uses a two-stroke petrol engine for motorway driving and a 20 kilowatt electric motor for fume-free motoring in town, is badly hampered by having to cart around 200 kilogrammes of nickel cadmium batteries. Mike Gidlow, Ford Power Train systems chief engineer, admits: "We have not had the breakthrough in battery technology we had been expecting, though some day we hope there will be the battery that can match the high energy density of petrol."

No matter how clean or efficient cars become, they will be not much use unless they are safe. There will be more than 130 million drivers over the age of 50 in Europe by the end of the century, each with slowing reactions, failing eyes and deteriorating hearing. They will still want to be comfortable at the wheel knowing they are safe and if the car can carry the burden, so much the better.

With the Birmingham University Centre for Applied Gerontology, Ford is developing ultra-violet headlamps to highlight street signs and pedestrians at night; bigger dials to help ailing older vision; and bigger switches to aid arthritic fingers.

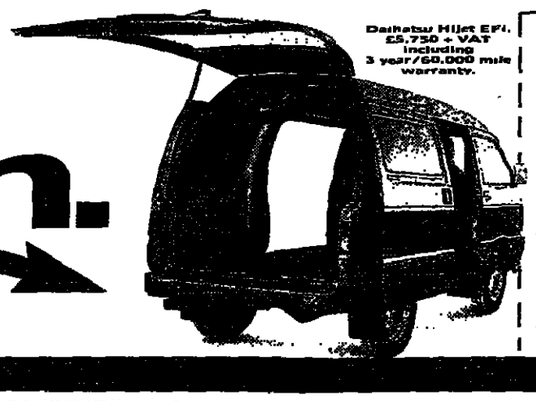
Infra-red night sights can, even in the densest fog or darkest night, pick out heat emitted by the tailpipe of a vehicle in front — or the body of a child crossing the road. A sharp black-and-white picture is projected onto the windscreen on a head-up display similar to those used by pilots of Tornado bombers during the Gulf War.

Futuristic, even far-fetched it may seem, but it is close to coming true . . . as any TRL scientist could have told you 30 years ago.

Research by Vaughan Freeman and John Reynolds

Mercedes on ice, page 10

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'They have accidents and these always involve a car. The car driver is always called Mate and he is always wrong'

Don't shoot the messengers — they're lunatics

DRIVEN TO DISTRACTION



Peter Barnard

And now we come to care in the community, a controversial policy you will not encounter in other motoring columns because this column reaches areas of life others only dream about.

Anyone who has driven a car in London will be aware that for several years now a large bunch of lunatics has been on the loose. They lurch about the place, cackling to themselves and randomly shaking their fists.

They lean over at alarming angles and flit through the tiniest crevice *between adjoining cars. During the few seconds each day when they are stationary they utilise the time* leering through car windows at attractive females, which in their lexicon is any female with a reasonable chance of being pronounced *alive by two doctors.*

These terrifying individuals have even found jobs: they call themselves motorcycle messengers.

We should of course feel sorry for them, for they have failed the audition for the circus high wire and have yet to receive a reply from Kawasaki, to whose racing manager they wrote a giant letter consisting of joined-up skid marks.

They have a curious addiction to double yellow lines: they place their wheels in the space between the two lines and then roar along the inside of a line of cars at 40mph. They do this in teams, for the one who can re-align the highest number of near-side door mirrors is the winner, with the complete removal of said mirror scoring a bonus point.

Sometimes they have accidents and these always involve a car. The driver of the car is always called *Mate and he is always wrong:* "'Ere, Mate, you knocked me off me flippin' bike." The fact that the biker has been trying to overtake the car by using a short cut across its bonnet is neither here nor there. I expect these madmen will claim that they have to behave in this way because they are paid by the delivery, but in my opinion Mrs Bottomley at Health and Dr Mawhinney at Transport (you'd think Health would have the doctor) need a joint policy which would rid the roads of these menaces by returning them to the secure psychiatric unit whence they came.

Perhaps the answer to the motorcycle messenger is a ban on crash helmets, but chance would be a fine thing: vehicle safety is headed in quite the other direction. The news that Mercedes and others are developing a system that will automatically detect and correct a skid was hailed this week as "the *next big step in car safety*".

A common claim, but a questionable one. The sort of people who cause accidents are just the sort who will blithely travel at unsafe speeds on ice and snow once they know that the car has taken over what little *responsibility they ever had.*

I am similarly suspicious about the real effect of seatbelts, for it has long been proven that anyone travelling on a motorway who removes his seatbelt *immediately slows down.* Removal of solid headgear has the same effect on bikers.

These safety features are all manifestations of the nanny state on wheels and the consequence is that too many people take car safety and *road safety to be synonymous. But* any car is only as safe as its driver. I am all for safety features, but let's not kid ourselves that safety mitigates stupidity.



I love gadgets as much as the next overgrown schoolboy but I was amused to learn that some mobile telephones (though not installed car phones) send a signal that can cause airbags to inflate. Of course the police already knew this, having attended enough accidents caused by people chatting on their telephones. But do I resist answering the mobile when it rings? No comment.

THE AA'S GRIDLOCK GUIDE

● **LONDON**

A406 North Circular Rd, Upper Edmonton: road width reduced on Lea Valley Viaduct.
A219 Putney Bridge: reduced to one lane each way for repairs.
A214 Trinity Rd, Wandsworth: temporary lights at junction with Burntwood Lane.
A316 Twickenham Bridge, near Richmond: down to one lane each way until end of March.
A110 Windmill Hill, Enfield: new roadworks at junction with Church St down to one lane westbound.
A501 Kings Cross one-way system: major repairs with lane closures. Twenty-four hour restrictions. Long delays expected.
A1 East Finchley: Lane restrictions on Falloden Way and Lyttleton Rd.
A3 Kingston Bypass: southbound down to one lane between Shannons Corner and New Malden exit slip until Monday. Severe delays.

● **SOUTH EAST**

M25 Surrey J7-8 (M23/Reigate): *contraflow causes regular delays* and effects traffic joining from M23 northbound.
M25 Surrey J10-11 (A3/Chertsey): widening work with contraflow.
A3 Guildford, Surrey: contraflow between Abbotswood and Cathedral interchange. Expect delays near A322 Dennis slip road.
A329 Bracknell, *Berkshire*: roadworks at Met Office roundabout junction with the A322/A3095/-B3022.
A27 Chichester Bypass, Sussex: contraflow between Westhampnett and Whyke roundabouts until May.
M275 Hampshire between Portsmouth and M27, contraflow for major maintenance. *Also* lane closures on M27 between J11-J12 (Fareham/M275).
A40 Oxfordshire: roadworks between Cassington and Eynsham.
A138 (Old A12), Chelmsford, Essex: closed Colchester bound at Springfield for concrete repairs until Monday — then closed London bound until March 6.

● **SOUTH WEST**

M4 Avon J20-21 (Almondsbury/-Aust): roadworks affecting both carriageways.
M32 Avon J1-2 (Filton/Eastville): lane restrictions both ways.
M5 Gloucestershire J11-12 (Cheltenham/Gloucester): contraflow in place until September.
M5 Devon near J27 (Tiverton): contraflow and the northbound entry slip road closed.
A419 Swindon: contraflow between Turnpike roundabout and A361 junction, with the slip road onto B4141 Hyde Rd closed.
A350 Semington, Wiltshire: roadworks and temporary traffic lights in High St. Seek alternative route.
A361 Somerset: closed between East Lyng and Burrow Bridge to HGVs — diversions via A38 towards Dunball and M5, then follow A39.
A348 Dorset: roadworks at Longham, temporary traffic lights. Long delays likely.
A3029 Bristol: Merchants Rd closed in Cumberland Basin System at Junction Lock Bridge causing knock-on delays on Anchor Rd and Cumberland Rd until March.
A4 Bath: temporary traffic lights on the London Road West due to work on Batheaston Bypass. Expect long delays especially during peak-times.

● **MIDLANDS AND EAST ANGLIA**

M6 West Midlands J4a-6 near Birmingham: major work with a contraflow until March.
M5 West Midlands J3-4 southwest of Birmingham: various lane closures for barrier and lighting work, with additional restrictions sometimes overnight until end of February.
A43 Silverstone, Northamptonshire: resurfacing work with major delays expected, no work on Sundays.
A38 north of Derby: major work on Little Eaton Bypass with lane restrictions and a contraflow until end of February.
A52 Nottingham Ring Road: major roadworks between Dunkirk and Nottingham Knight until April. Additional restrictions overnight.
A45 Stonebridge, West Midlands: flyover construction at A452 junction and widening between M42 J6 and Stonebridge Island — 40mph limit and lane closures — until June.
A452 Shire Oak, West Midlands: major work on Chester Rd between Castlehill Rd and Lindon Rd, northbound closed north of Lichfield Rd (A461) with diversions.

● **NORTH**

M6 Cheshire J20-21A (Lymm-Croft): *major roadworks continue* near Thelwall Viaduct until May. Southbound entry slip closed at J21.
M62 West Yorkshire J25-J26 (Brighouse/Chain Bar): contraflow and 50mph speed restriction. Westbound entry slip is closed at J25.
M18 South Yorkshire J3-4 Doncaster area: major reconstruction — contraflow and lane restrictions. Northbound entry slip closed at J3.
M57 Merseyside J1 (Tarbock Island): roadworks and lane closures at the roundabout junction with M62, with additional restrictions at weekends until April.
M62 Humberside J34-35 (Whitley Bridge/Langham): contraflow with two lanes each way and eastbound entry slip road at J34 closed.
A1M Co Durham between Boldum and Carville: contraflow with two lanes each way and 50mph speed limit until April.

● **WALES**

M4 Gwent J23-22 (Magor-Newhouse): lane restrictions and contraflow for widening between Magor and Rogiet for construction of second Severn crossing until June.
A472 Pontypool: demolition works on the Pontymoile Gyratory with lane restrictions and temporary lights affecting Rockhill Rd especially until end of March.
A5 Maerdy, Clwyd: Improvements continue at the Glyn bends. Temporary lights at times and short-term closures.
A465 West Glamorgan, between Llandarcy and Aberdulais: contraflow on the Saltings viaduct for resurfacing until June. Long delays likely — add extra 30 minutes at peak-times.
A4223 Pontypridd: a one-way system operating on Gelliwastad Rd because of widening work.
A449 Gwent roadworks between Usk and Raglan, restrictions for Northbound traffic.
A40 Dyfed: Pontargothi bridge closed for strengthening. Carmarthen to Llandello traffic diverted via A48 to Cross Hands, A476 to Pfairfach and A483 to Llandello.

● **SCOTLAND**

M90 Tayside J8-J9 (Arlary-Mulmont): contraflow in operation for roadworks.
M8 Lothian J1 (Newbridge): various restrictions between J1 and the Edinburgh City Bypass.
Edinburgh: width restrictions on High St between North and South bridges until end of June.
Glasgow: Road West, down to one lane each way between Portman St and West St and M8 eastbound exit slip down to one lane.
A741 Renfrew Rd, Paisley, Strathclyde: closed northbound for roadworks, contraflow southbound, delays expected peak-times.

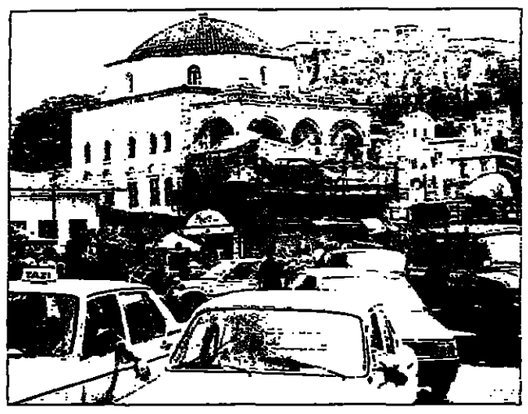
● **NORTHERN IRELAND**

A6 Co Londonderry: temporary lights on Glenshane Rd, Cashel for resurfacing until March.
A26 Co Londonderry: temporary lights on Greenhill Rd at junction with Ballymoney Bypass until September.



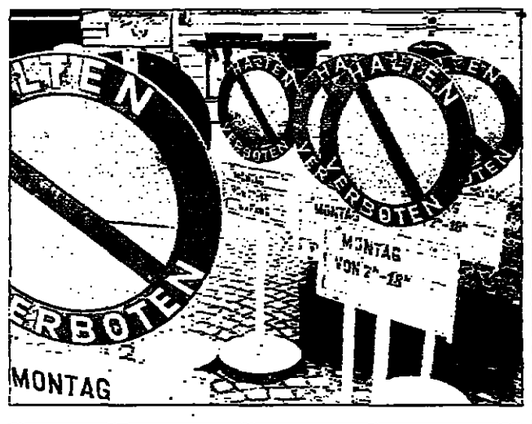
ZURICH

A WORLD leader where city authorities have installed a network of trams, trolleys and buses, which account for 60 per cent of trips to work. No wonder, as the tram and bus system controls traffic lights to give them priority, which means commuters do not have to wait long before they are on the move. At the same time, journeys to work by car are steadily falling — from 24 to 18 per cent in the past decade — because the public network is good. Each of Zurich's 340,000 inhabitants makes an average of 470 public transport trips a year, probably the highest figure in the world.



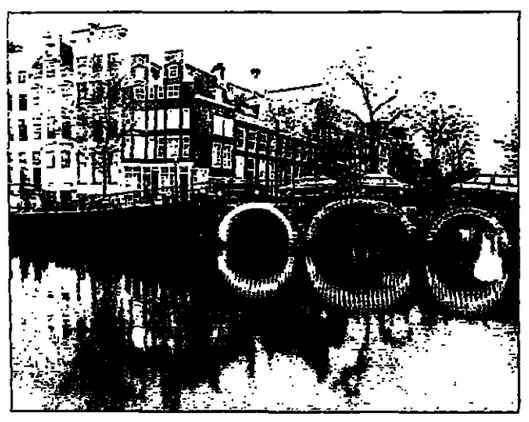
ATHENS

IF YOU think Britain has problems, one choking day in the centre of Athens will help you understand the drastic decision to ban cars from the city on some days. The city has experimented long and hard with trying to cut the number of vehicles in the city centre by using number plates to control entry, so that cars with even numbers on their registration were allowed in one day, odd numbers the next. Similar systems have operated on Sundays in Naples and Bari in Italy. But Athens, with its buildings under threat and its residents suffering, is contemplating tougher measures.



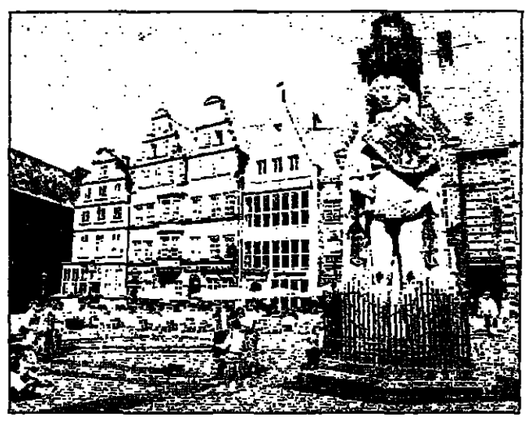
SALZBURG

FRIDAYS have been declared "ozone-free" in Salzburg in an effort to get one day clear of congestion and smog. Instead of giving out parking tickets, wardens patrol traffic jams every Thursday evening giving fed-up drivers a free bus ticket. To help concentrate motorists' minds, parking space and road space for cars has been cut while space for buses and cyclists has been increased. There are plans for city-wide traffic calming measures and an 18mph (30kph) speed limit on all the major roads in and out of the city centre, except for some key bus routes.



AMSTERDAM

PARKING is a problem for the car driver in Amsterdam because so much space has been given over to cycleways, trams and buses. The number of parking spaces was cut from 28,000 to 20,000 by the city authorities and more reductions are threatened. City fathers are trying to bring more housing into the centre so that travelling by bicycle or on foot is a realistic and pleasant way to go to work or visit leisure facilities. Already around 30 per cent of trips are made by bicycle although nearly 80 miles of tramways also shuttle commuters along quickly and easily.



BREMEN

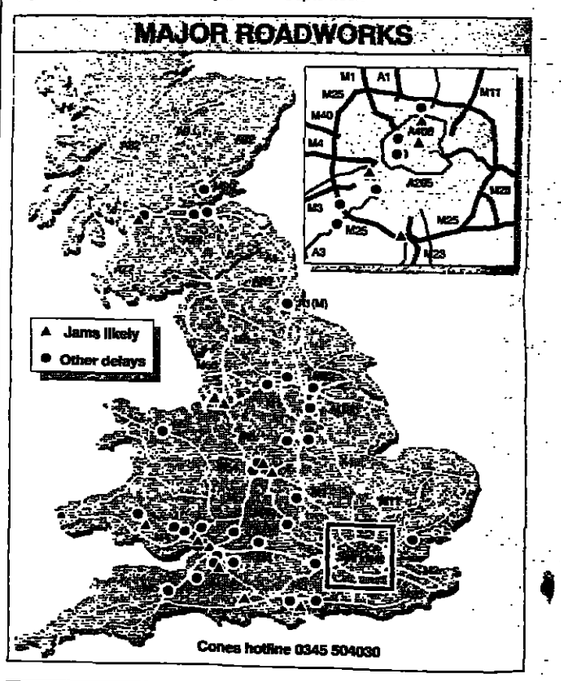
RESIDENTS in 250 homes will have to do without a car because they will not be allowed one on their new estate in the Hollerland district. There will be only 30 parking spaces when normally an estate of that size would need 200. Cars will be pooled or hired. The idea is designed to show that people can live without cars comfortably. Planners say that not providing lots of spaces for parking means more green areas, less concrete and more generous living room in homes that do not need garages or extra land outside the front door, normally taken up by the car.



EDINBURGH

THE city is planning an attack on congestion and pollution with a wide series of measures. The task: to reduce the number of cars in the city centre by 30 per cent by the year 2010, increase public transport from 34 to 41 per cent and cycling from 2 to 5 per cent. That means expanding the 375-mile cycle path network, costing about £2 million, new rail stations and a better priority system for buses. The result: a cut of a third in road casualties within five years, a halving of casualties among children and a 20 per cent reduction in exhaust emissions.

MAJOR ROADWORKS



To make jams go west, just look east

Jonathan Prynn offers some timely advice to the Transport Secretary

Drivers confronted with a traffic warden as they struggled through the misery of congested city roads had no need to worry. The polite tap on the windscreen was followed by a ticket — not for parking but a free bus ticket.

The hint from the city fathers of Salzburg in Austria was as pointed as they could make it: get out of your car and get on to public transport.

The scheme is one of the most original being adopted across Europe as the car is banned from dozens of town and city centres.

Brian Mawhinney, the Transport Secretary, will make a speech on Monday as part of his Great Debate on the future of transport in Britain. The chances that he will announce measures as radical and innovative as those being tried by our European Union partners are remote, to say the least.

However, the transport secretary would do well to study *the various continental* schemes that are driving cars off the road and opening up cities to pedestrians and cyclists, as well as helping to clean up the environment and relieve congestion.

In the German city of Bremen, for example, residents moving on to a new estate do so only on condition that they sign a legally binding agreement not to own a car. Just to make sure, there are only 30 parking slots on the estate of 250 homes. If they need a car, they have to use pool transport through the local community group, or hire one.

The notion of curbing the car always raises hackles and Dr Mawhinney could expect strong opposition from road lobby groups if he intends to cut spending on roads. But the idea that there is a Europe-wide vendetta against the car is as far wide of the mark as it could be, and the accusation is surely countered by the activity to re-order priorities towards public transport in Germany — a nation that produces Mercedes-Benz and BMW and has *Autobahnen* without speed limits.

The Germans love their cars — but they want to go shopping without choking and to get to work on time without being stressed after spending hours in traffic jams. There is no pleasure in driving a gorgeous, go-faster limousine when it is stuck in second gear for hours with nowhere to go but follow a line of bumpers.

Steven Norris, the transport minister, might have railed at the idea of public transport, packed with "dreadful human beings", as he claimed it was, but other nations have decided that good buses, trams and trains, coupled with facilities for bicycles, could release towns and cities from the misery of the car.

The residents of Zurich make an average of 470 journeys by public transport each year, the highest figure for any city in the world. The city's tram, trolley and bus network is *so extensive and* sophisticated that using public transport is easy and not a battle against the odds, as it can be in Britain.



'Mawhinney must come up with some new ideas'

In Münster, Germany, more than four in ten of all journeys in the city are by bike. Cars and lorries are banned from the centre, which is open only to taxis, buses and cycles. Cycles are exempt from most one-way regulations and there is guarded parking for 3,000 bikes outside the city railway station for commuters, and even a cycle repair shop.

Amsterdam's Westerpark Quarter will become the first car-free residential area in Holland, while on Berlin's Eldenauer Strasse, the site of a former *slaughterhouse* is proposed for housing — but with no cars.

Other cities have adopted a more punitive approach, such as Gothenburg in Sweden, where parking charges were doubled, and Munich, where parking *spaces in the centre* have been so reduced there is now little point in taking the car.

So far, British towns and cities have reacted with restrictions rather than original schemes — and certainly with little that costs money in these cash-restrained times. Little surprise, as they are largely striking out alone, forced to act because their cities are simply clogged.

There are bastions of hope, though, such as Leicester, where special "safe routes" were designated to encourage children to walk to school in order to end the dreadful "school run" which clogged streets *during rush hours.*

York has led the way towards pedestrianisation and Edinburgh is planning a radical attack on congestion by increasing public transport so that the car becomes a less attractive daily proposition.

There can barely be a village, town or city in the country not confronting the problems of congestion and how to preserve the fabric of their surroundings and the lives of local people. Most, though, fall a long way short on originality, and almost all on having the funds to invest in creating new ways of travelling that will satisfy the demands of thousands of daily commuters, shoppers and schoolchildren.

Environmental groups welcome the bravery of Dr Mawhinney in, for the first time, tackling head-on the issue of the car and its role in our daily lives. And the transport secretary could go a long way on Monday to impressing those groups, local authorities and even the vested interests of the transport organisations if he has plans to divert funds from the roads budget and *into schemes that really will* change the balance of power.

"He is going way beyond what any previous transport secretary has done, so it is very good news," says Lynn Sloman, assistant director of the pressure group Transport 2000, which is hosting Dr Mawhinney's speech.

Fears over the future of a privatised British Rail, coupled with confusion over whether we need new roads and even whether the government has a strategic plan to tackle any of the current problems, always trouble motorists faced daily with the problems of congestion.

Perhaps Dr Mawhinney might discover while on his way to deliver the speech, as his ministerial limousine sits in lines of traffic in central London on Monday morning, just how much this country rapidly needs some innovative thinking.

NEWS SUMMARY

Tax dodgers' bonanza

Losses on road tax dodgers will be as much as £163 million in the last financial year, according to the Department of Transport. The loss is equivalent to 4.1 per cent of the entire annual vehicle excise duty take for 1994-95. Researchers discovered up to 1.5 million vehicles could be unlicensed, including 865,000 cars and vans and 370,000 *motorcycles*. The total loss from cars is estimated at £119 million.

Nuvolari car for sale

The 1930 Alfa Romeo raced to victory by one of the most romantic names in motor racing, Tazio Nuvolari, could fetch £100,000 at auction in London next week. The car was once owned by Prince Aly Khan and survived several owners before turning up in Wiltshire. It goes under the hammer on Monday at the Jack Barclay showrooms.

Milestone for Toyota

Toyota sent its 100,000th British-built car for export this week. Tim Eggar, the industry minister, attended a ceremony at the Burnaston plant in Derbyshire, to watch the red Carina E set out on its journey to Denmark, one of 17 export markets for the British-made Toyotas.

On the right track

The Tracker homing device, thwarting thieves in Britain, has proved spectacularly, if belatedly successful, in South America. *Classic Car Weekly* reports the case of a 1963 Mercury taken in Miami, Florida, fitted with the Tracker which beams its location to police. The car was found in Bogota, Colombia, two years later . . . a couple of days after police there were given their detectors.

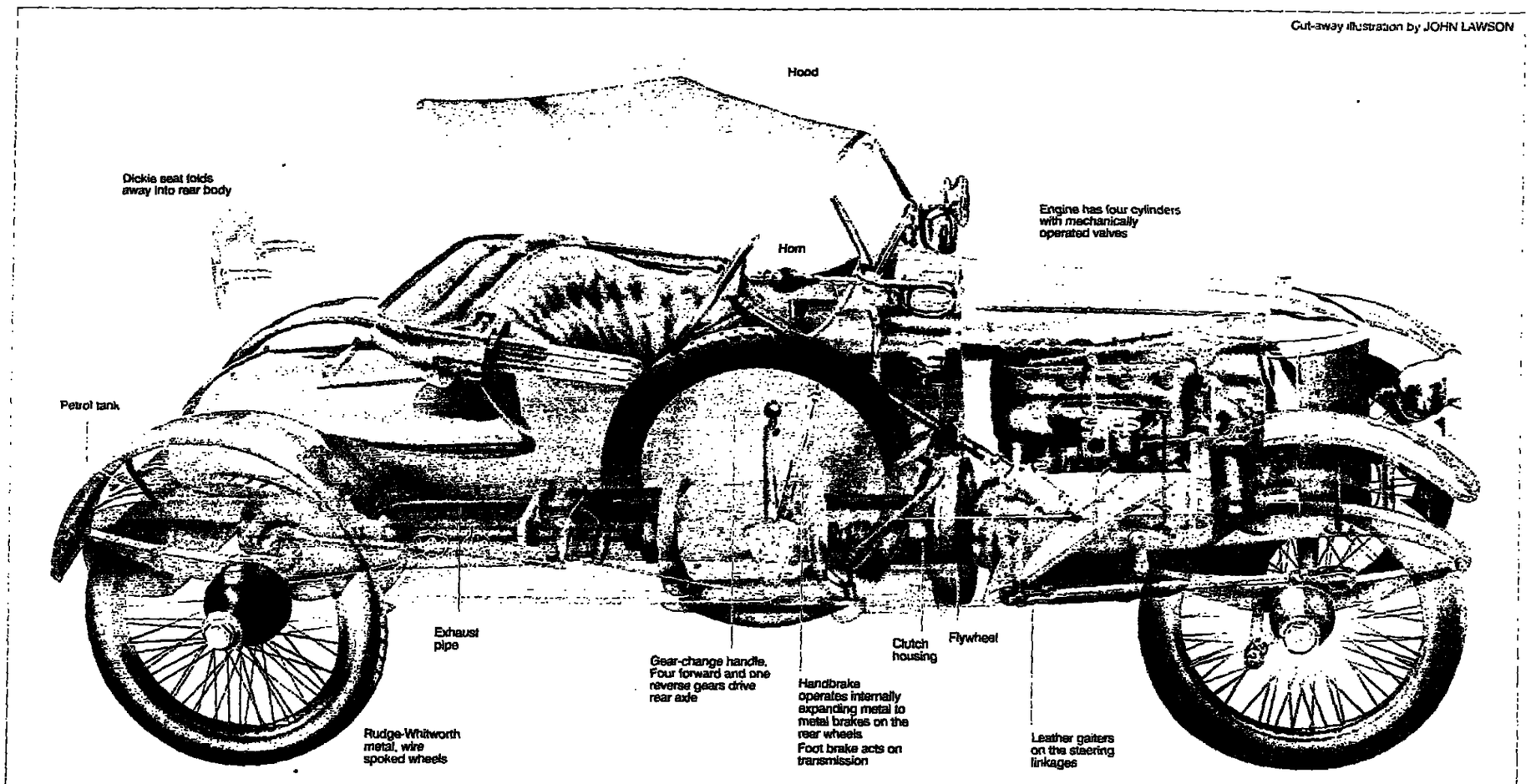
هكذا من الاصل

'The tuning and excellent handling give the early Vauxhall a good claim to be the first British sports car'

Imperial Prince that led the pace race

Lord Montagu of Beaulieu continues his series on a dozen cars that made Britain great

Cut-away illustration by JOHN LAWSON



The significance of the Prince Henry Vauxhall, as it was generally called although to the makers it was the C-type, was that the designer had unusually obtained power by tuning rather than by simply increasing the engine size. Combined with excellent handling, this gives the Prince Henry a good claim to be the first British sports car.

Today the British arm of General Motors, Vauxhall has a history of more than 90 years. The name comes from the Vauxhall Iron Works in south London, itself named from nearby Vauxhall Gardens, the famous 18th century pleasure park. This name is a corruption of Fulk's Hall, from a 13th century knight, Fulke Le Bréant, who owned land there.

The first Vauxhall car was made in 1903 but the need for more space led to a move to Luton two years later, where the company has been ever since. By a strange coincidence, the site of the new factory had also once been a property of Fulke Le Bréant

Early Vauxhalls were strictly touring cars, but in 1908 the company entered a 20hp car in the 2,000 Miles Trial and, to its great pleasure and surprise, won its class and made best individual performance.

Designed by 25-year-old Laurence Pomeroy, who had recently joined the company, the 20hp had a new L-head side-valve engine and, in place of the previous throttle lever on the steering wheel, a floor-mounted accelerator pedal between the clutch and brake.

The engine was suitable for tuning and Pomeroy raised the 38hp output of 1908 to 60hp two years later, with no increase in the engine size of three litres. To accompany the more powerful engine, a lower, doorless four-seater body was provided, fronted by an attractive pointed radiator incorporating the famous Vauxhall flutes, which were a characteristic of the make up to 1958.

Two of the new models were entered in the 1910 Prince Henry Trial, a long-distance event in Germany organised by Prince Henry of Prussia, the motor enthusiast and younger brother of the Kaiser. They were no match for the Ferdinand Porsche-designed Austro-Daimlers with nearly double the engine capacity, but they had trouble-free runs and Vauxhall was sufficiently pleased to offer the new model as part of the range at the 1911 Motor Show.

> 'I may enter the 1915 model in the 1997 Peking to Paris run'

It still had no doors and was hardly the car to take a prospective mother-in-law for a country drive in, but it had a flexible top gear performance and was good value at £580.

More civilised models, first with small half-doors and later with full doors, followed, and for 1913 the engine size went up to 3.9 litres. This gave 75hp at a slightly lower engine speed, and a top speed of around 75mph.

Like other sports cars of the era, these Prince Henrys mostly had open four-seater bodies. The concept of the sports car as a two-seater came in the 1920s. There were, however, exceptions, among them the handsome 1913 two-seater that we have in the National Motor Museum.

The Prince Henry, very popular among amateur sportsmen, was entered by the company in a variety of events. Its leading driver was Percy Kidner, who was also director of engineering under Pomeroy. Among the far-flung events that Kidner entered were the 1911 St Petersburg-Sebastopol-St Petersburg Trial and the 1912 Swedish Winter Trials.

The Russian Trial, one of the few motor contests held in Imperial Russia, involved about 1,650 miles over terrain in which roads existed only in name. For most of the journey there were no hotels but the route was sufficiently close to the railway for a train to accompany the cars to provide overnight accommodation.

Kidner's car, which had specially-raised ground clearance, made a trouble-free run and established the Vauxhall name in Russia. The imperial family had more than one, though not necessarily Prince Henrys.

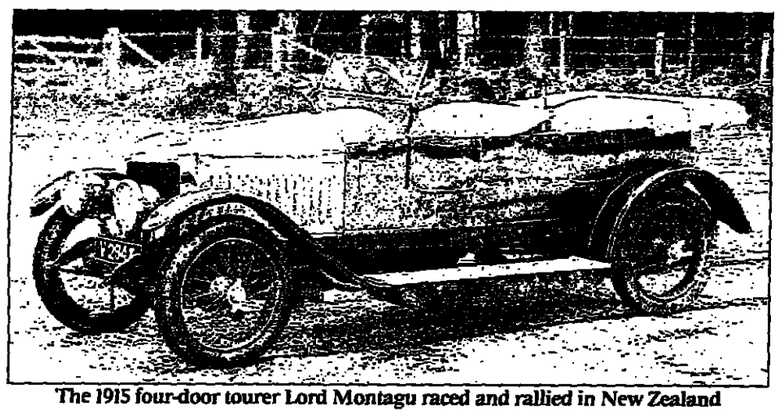
In the Swedish Trial, held from Stockholm to Gothenburg and back, Kidner finished thirteenth but his native-born team-mate Kjellgren was second.

By 1914, the Prince Henry was beginning to be outclassed in serious competitions and at the request of Yorkshire enthusiast Joseph Higginson, a larger engine of 4½ litres and about 90hp was installed in a Prince Henry chassis. This car, called the 30/98, went on to become the most famous Vauxhall of the 1920s. Apart from the larger engine, the main difference from the Prince Henry was that the attractive pointed radiator was replaced by a flat one. This was because the "V"-radiator had not proved too effective at cooling, however handsome it may have been.

Between 1911 and 1915, 240 Prince Henrys were built (50 with the three-litre engine), of which today only about ten are thought to survive worldwide, so I count myself extremely lucky to have two in the National Motor Museum collection. One is a four-seater tourer of 1915, which I have raced and rallied in numerous events, including round New Zealand's South Island. Driving it is an exciting and revealing experience because, although it is an Edwardian car, its acceleration and roadholding make it feel much more like a Vintage model.

The other is probably the most original car in the museum — a 1913 two-seater which belongs to the Cheverton family on the Isle of Wight, who supplied carriages to Queen Victoria when she was in residence at Osborne House. It was bought new by Mrs F A Cheverton and laid up in 1923, having covered only 15,000 miles, and it has hardly run since.

My most memorable drive in the Prince Henry was the 1965 international veteran and vintage car rally on the South Island of New Zealand, which included visits to Mount Cook, Milford Sound and other remote areas. The virtually empty and sometimes dirt roads of New Zealand left me with a clear impression of what Edwardian driving must have been like. It was able to beat all the other veterans in the hill climb, as it has often done at the Prescot Hill Climb. At the moment, I am seriously contemplating entering it in the proposed 1997 Peking-Paris run.



The 1915 four-door tourer Lord Montagu raced and rallied in New Zealand

Winner by design



Pomeroy: led design team

Laurence Pomeroy (1883-1941) was one of the first professional engineers to work in the motor industry. A member of the Institute of Mechnical Engineers and Institute of Automobile Engineers before he was 30, he took over as chief engineer at Vauxhall when his boss, F W Hodges, unwisely took an extended holiday in Egypt at the wrong time. Pomeroy left Vauxhall in 1919, going to America where he designed an all-aluminium car. On his return to England, he joined Daimler, where he was responsible for the Double Six V12 engine. His son, also named Laurence, was a Grand Prix enthusiast and journalist on *The Motor*.

The Cubitt — built by a building firm

Kevin Eason tells of an historic car rescued by a chance encounter

As a name in the motoring hall of fame, it barely ranks alongside Austin, Morris, Jaguar or Bentley. But the Cubitt has a unique place, not as a model designed by one of the giants of the motor industry but made by a construction firm.

The 1925 two-seater, now owned by Tarmac in the Midlands, is one of only three Cubitt cars in existence, a relic from an age when everyone wanted to join the burgeoning motoring industry — yet it was only saved from destruction by a chance encounter.

Cubitts was one of Britain's best-known building firms, with Covent Garden Market, London's County Hall and the Cenotaph in Whitehall on the company's list of credits.

Joining the great boom in car buying was too good to resist and, in 1918, the firm's directors decided to set up their own car factory in the unlikely setting of Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire.

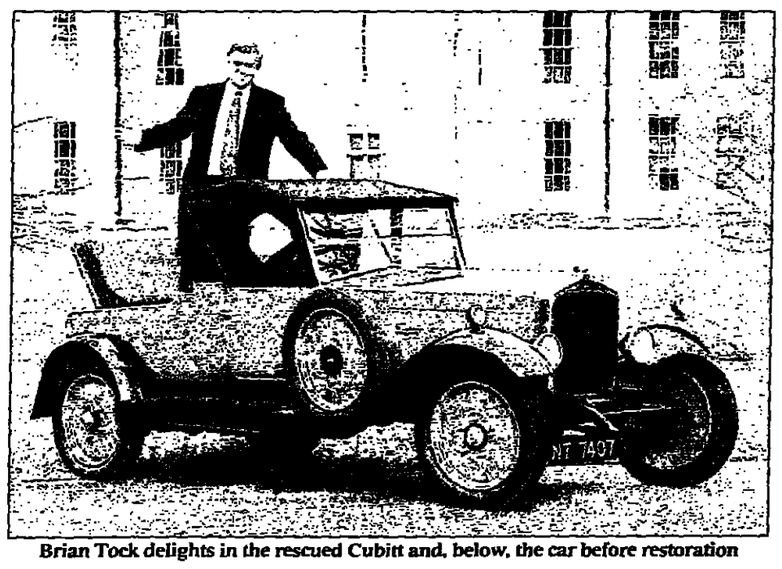
Within six months, the first Cubitt was launched at just £298, described by *Autocar* as "one of the most interesting propositions at present before the motorist ... the success of the design will be desired by all, since it is a frank attempt to rival in this country the low-priced American car".

With a meaty 20 horse power, four-cylinder engine and four-speed gearbox, the Cubitt was not short of admirers with *Autocar's* testers of the time praising its quality, comfort and equipment.

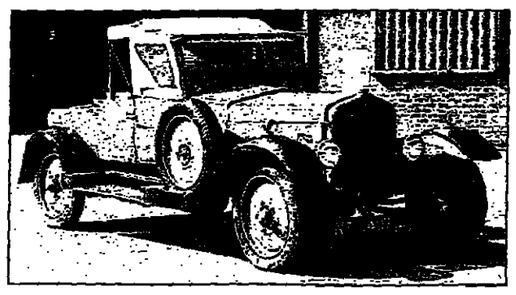
That was about as good as the Cubitt's career got. By 1925, Cubitts had gone back to bricks and mortar and given up on cars. For a long time, only one four-seater model was known to exist — until a bizarre coincidence unearthed this two-seater sister.

Philip Crotty, a former Cubitts director, stopped to buy petrol at a filling station in Oswestry, Shropshire. While waiting, he lifted the corner of a dusty tarpaulin ... and discovered the Cubitt car underneath. He paid £50 for it on the spot.

Clearly, the Cubitt had lacked care and attention. The first report from restorer Malcolm Nash diagnosed a severe dose of woodworm and rust to such an extent that some of the car was held together only by paint. The clutch was seized, the gearbox and rear axle falling apart and there were no front lights or dashboard instruments or fittings and no seat frame.



Brian Tock delights in the rescued Cubitt and, below, the car before restoration



Mr Nash raided the library at the National Motor Museum at Beaulieu for clues to the car's original look. A dashboard plate "Supplied by Keen's" helped him to trace the man who originally sold the car, C G Keen, who supplied it to an Oswestry farmer and then a few years later took it back in part exchange. Keen's used the Cubitt as a breakdown truck for years.

Nash had friends and colleagues combing car boot sales and auto jumbles for spare parts for months. Bit by bit, the car was put together until in 1978 it was completed and sent to be housed at Beaulieu. Unfortunately, storage space was at a premium and Lord Montagu wanted such a unique car to be seen more widely. Recently he offered the car to Tarmac, which bought out Holland, Hannen and Cubitts in 1976.

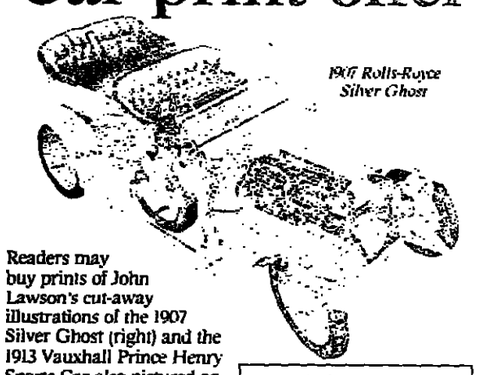
Tarmac jumped at the chance, not least because of the novelty of acquiring a marque so rare. Apart from the four-seater in private ownership, the only other Cubitt, and a near twin for the Tarmac car, came under the hammer at Sotheby's about a month ago where it was described as "a rare find, deserving careful and sympathetic restoration". Someone obviously liked it because it fetched £12,700.

The Beaulieu car had lost some of its gloss being tucked away in a corner, but it provided an entertaining break for Tarmac apprentices who were employed to carry out a second restoration in time for the car's 70th birthday this year. Now it is back in near original bright blue livery and a stark contrast to Tarmac's more familiar fleet which comprises Land Rovers, heavy lorries and JCBs.

Brian Tock, managing director of Tarmac Construction's plant division, is planning to use the Cubitt for special events. He says: "We are delighted to have it as the star of our fleet."



THE TIMES
Car print offer



1907 Rolls-Royce Silver Ghost

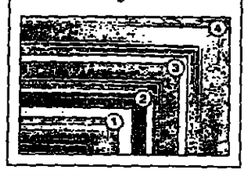
Readers may buy prints of John Lawson's cut-away illustrations of the 1907 Silver Ghost (right) and the 1913 Vauxhall Prince Henry Sports Car also pictured on this page.

The prints are available in two forms:

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Morag Preston got herself a place on the inside track to discover the secrets of being a good chauffeur





Part driver, part protector: Leslie Cabrera demonstrates to students how a chauffeur should keep unwanted folk away from his employer

Pictures: Martin Beddall

Home, James – and keep your ears and mouth shut

The lucky chauffeurs have fat dogs and understanding wives. The remainder are proof that theirs is one of the most stressful of occupations, with one of the highest divorce rates. Late nights, abusive backseat drivers, delays and bad weather are daily sources of frustration. Moreover, the role of chauffeur has been extended from that of domestic servant to mobile agent and, most recently, bodyguard.

The Chauffeurs' Guild, a unique licensing authority and employment agency based in Wimbledon, offers a monthly diploma course to newcomers. The two-day course, held at the London Olympia Hilton at a cost of £295, includes lectures on 56 subjects and security demonstrations in the hotel car park. According to the president, Leslie Cabrera: "The days of the stodgy, podgy, chauffeur who doesn't have a brain are over. You won't be driving Miss Daisy any more."

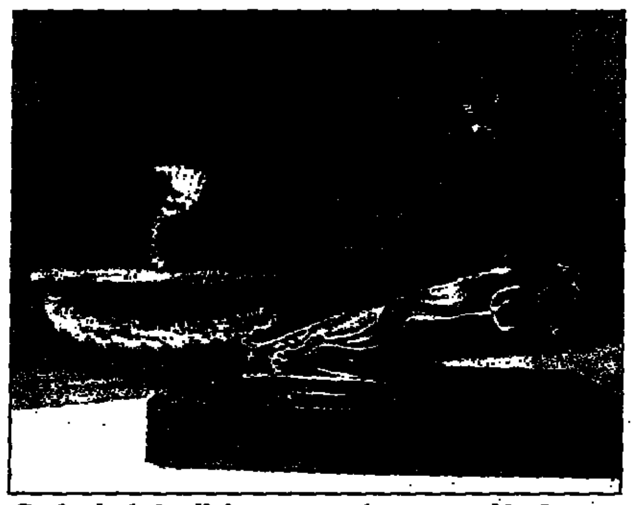
Mr Cabrera, 50, who established the guild in 1990, has been a law student, an anti-terrorist officer with the Metropolitan Police and a professional bodyguard. "Standards in chauffeuring were deplorable in the 1980s," he says. "You only had to smile and someone would employ you as their driver. Chauffeurs were behaving more like the rich man himself. Regulations had to be drawn up." There is now a Chauffeurs' Guild code of conduct and a disciplinary committee which can punish any of the 700 members with a caution or expulsion.

There are only 20 places and the diploma course is over-subscribed. Half have chauffeuring experience, some have been sent by their employer – including one to teach him not to talk so much.

Assisted by his instructors, Cabrera uses slides and videos to preach the four 'Ps': pleasantness, punctuality, politeness and patience. "A Joe Bloggs lorry driver needs a lot of knocking into shape," he says, "so we tell our students things their mother wouldn't dare." He advises them to stay away from garlic, and to carry spare underwear, a flask and sandwiches. Above all: "Play deaf, and keep your secrets secret. If your employer gives a yard, then take a foot." Chauffeurs ought to be wary of pillow talk, and should make other chauffeurs their number one enemy. Parker, remember, was an ex-con.

Some rookies look forward to adopting a second family. "I want to deal with the paperwork, and take the children to school," says Wesley Davis, 27, from Middlesex. "If my new employer puts me in a Cortina, I'll insist that we use my Jaguar. I just hope that I can work from nine to five."

Most chauffeurs, however, are at their employer's beck and call, sometimes up to 17 hours a day. Alternative aspirations, from "meeting a different class of people" to "seeing places", will be more easily fulfilled.



Cat-backed: the diploma course is sponsored by Jaguar

Unusually, there are three chauffeuses on the course. Although the job often involves spending nights in unfamiliar hotels, Wendy Hyland, 37, an unemployed sales rep, is undeterred. "A taxi job wouldn't be safe, but I'm used to working for men and know how to focus them," she says. "I've never wanted to work indoors, or nine to five, and I'm used to a lonely life on the road. I saw an advert and was advised that the diploma course was the only way to break the catch-22 situation of 'no experience, no job'."

Mr Cabrera admits it is particularly difficult for chauffeuses. He says: "Even female executives prefer male chauffeurs." Sarah Hilton, 32, from Bexhill-on-Sea, is not put off by the unsociable hours. "I'll take a book," she says. "I'm an unemployed HGV driver, so I know how tough it is for women to find work. But I'm annoyed that women are made to wear pillbox hats." An actor, though, requires props, and Mr Cabrera pontificates tradition: "Look the business, act the business, and you'll command respect."

Permanent chauffeurs are often given an allowance at the beginning of the week, and £15,000 is the minimum annual wage. One in three of the guild's members are with permanent employers, whom Mr Cabrera refers to as "the George Walker type of self-made businessman".

For £58.50, a temporary guild chauffeur will clean your car, fill it with petrol and drive you anywhere within six hours. "Since the Gulf War, when Arabs and Americans stopped coming to London, our turnover has been cut by 30 per cent," Mr Cabrera says.

The UK diploma course, sponsored by Jaguar, is not a pass or fail test, but Wendy won the award for the most promising chauffeur. "We are looking for that certain *je ne sais quoi* which allows people to be both humorous and serious," says Mr Cabrera, who now has his own chauffeur. "I want someone who can buy a dozen eggs at any time of the night."

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The roadside police camera

THE Gatso camera, named after Maurice Gatsonides, its Dutch inventor, is triggered by detection loops set into the road surface if the camera is sited near traffic lights or by radar if sited on open stretches of road.

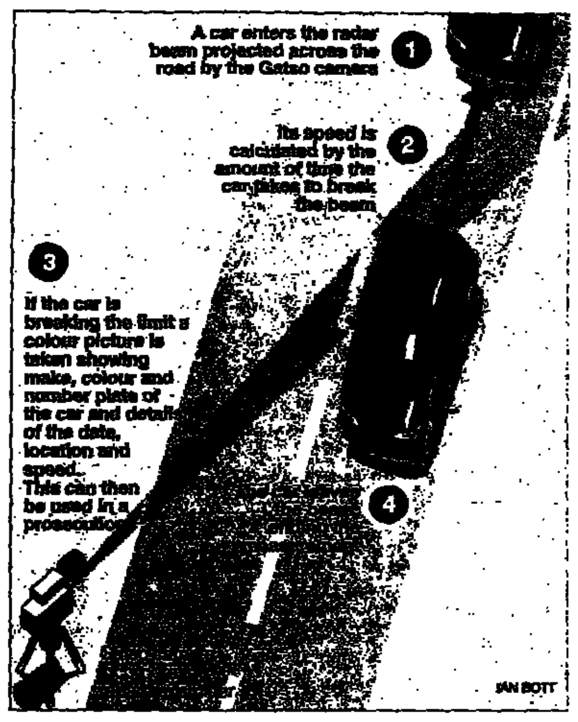
At traffic lights, the system uses two cables one metre apart, set into the road surface and running either side of the stop line. The Gatso detects when the stop light is on. Any car that then crosses the two cables triggers the camera, which takes a photograph of the car's rear number plate. On the photograph is stamped how long the light had been at red before the car jumped it, date, time and location.

On open roads the Gatso is triggered by a radar beam. The radar equipment is set up parallel to the road and shoots a beam across the road at a 20 degree angle. Speed is calculated as the equipment measures the time the vehicle takes to break the beam. The police can set the Gatso to be triggered by a vehicle travelling at any speed above the limit.

The colour photo taken shows the make, colour and number plate of the car, and stamped on the photograph are details of the date, place, and speed of vehicle. A powerful flash enables the equipment to operate day and night.

The film is collected by traffic police, developed, analysed, and summonses despatched accordingly. The camera or "gun" is housed in an armoured box to resist vandalism.

The police assume the vehicle's registered keeper was the driver at the time of the offence.



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£31,000 ovno
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I've seen the future – and it works

Hilton Holloway visits Fiat's state-of-the-art robotic plant at Melfi

Fiat has long been associated with robotic car production. Back in the 1970s, the company made quite a stir with a series of ads for the Strada hatchback, blending film of the gyrating robots with classical music. "Built by robots and driven by humans", became one of the best-remembered slogans of the decade.

In the 1990s, Fiat is still firmly committed to electro-mechanical labour, but the end product couldn't be further removed from the rust-prone and unreliable Strada. Although, like the Strada, the car is radically styled and has that indefinable Italian verve, the Punto is a world away in terms of build quality, mainly thanks to Fiat's new flagship factory in Melfi.

San Nicola Di Melfi is a classic greenfield site two hours drive inland from Naples. Building started in 1991 and the first Punto rolled off the line in December 1993. The 2.7 million sq metres plant houses component suppliers on site. Melfi has its own gas-fired power station and test track.

Factory spokesmen make great play of the level of training the young (average age 26) workforce receives, which can take up to two years for the most specialised tasks. At full capacity Melfi will be turning out 1,600 cars per day, with just 6,300 factory staff working three eight-hour shifts, six days per week. Italian flair even extends to the power station, which has multi-tonal gasometers. In true environmental-friendly style, Melfi has a water recycling plant and its own rail links.

Melfi, like the Nissan plant in Sunderland, is totally reliant on the latest lean production techniques. Even the way workers and materials arrive at the factory has been calculated to "separate the material flow from the human flow". Component orders can be placed hour-by-hour and arrive at the production line right on time, eliminating costly stockpiling, the holy grail of lean production.

Inside, Melfi, the overwhelming sensation is of cleanliness and quiet. What activity there is seems to be carried out with remarkable discretion. It's almost as if the environmentally unfashionable car industry has been embarrassed into working quietly out of sight.

Melfi is so comprehensive that the Puntos start life as rolls of sheet steel. This is shaped by 450-ton stamping machines into the various body panels. The panels are stacked and sent down robotised production lines that spot-weld various forms into ever bigger sub-assemblies. Inner wings join bulkheads, which then join floor pressings, and a Punto begins to take form. Watching the robot welders making up complete bodies on the inner structure is a strangely compelling sight.

The heads of the machines flick tautly from one predetermined position to another, melting the panels together with 2,500 spot-welds, each accompanied by a faint shower of sparks. Flexible design means these robotised production lines will be building three different models on the same track by 1996.

Completed bodies, checked for build accuracy by laser beams, sweep through the paint plant ("green" water-based paint, of course) and emerge gleaming to be lowered over the running gear. Engine, gearbox, front and rear suspension, exhaust and brakes are all held together in one giant sub-assembly. The body descends from above and robots emerge from under the production line to bolt the whole thing together.

Fiat Tipo keeps the price right

FIAT may be anxious to show off its new factory at Melfi where the Punto is built, but one of its older models, which like the Punto was awarded Car of the Year when it was introduced in 1988, must be among the best buys at present.

The Tipo looks unique and few family cars are as spacious. What's more the price hasn't changed in the past five years although the specification has been improved greatly.

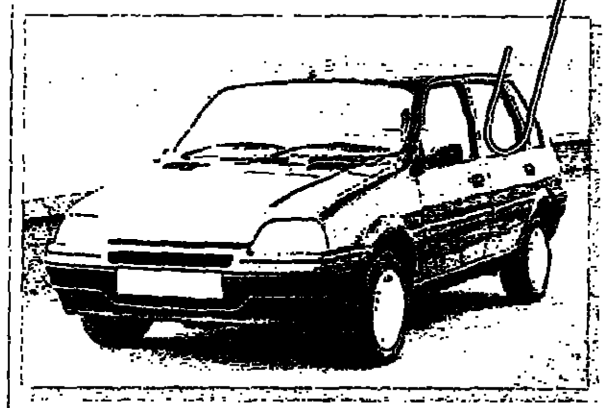
When the Tipo was launched in mid 1988, it confirmed the majority view of Fiats as innovative, and often cleverly thought out cars that appeal to the keener driver. It was well received by the press, who applauded the clever body design. The Tipo was blessed with bags of room, front and rear. The wide cabin and shaped rear seat would take three passengers without complaint and the doors opened a cavernous 80 degrees. Rust fears were laid to rest once and for all by galvanising 70 per cent of the body panels. Yet, despite being more fun to drive than most, the Tipo never quite seized the imagination of the British public.

The Tipo is still on sale, eclipsed rather by newer, and unusually more conventional, models. But the current entry level model, the Tipo Start, has been much improved over the old 1.4 DGT. The body has been beefed up for greater safety, it now has glitch-free fuel injection and a catalytic converter. The driver gets an airbag and all-important power steering and the stereo has been upgraded.

It's not the fastest car in the world, but it's bigger than anything this side of Mondeo-class cars and will swallow enormous amounts of kit.

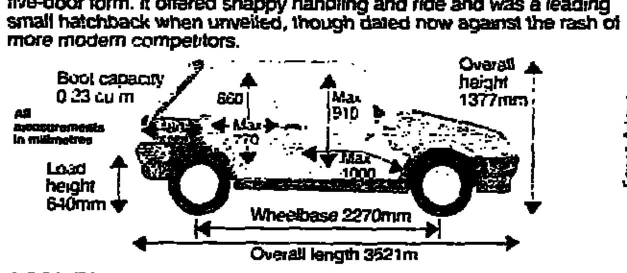
Five years ago the basic 1.4 DGT cost around £8,800. Remarkably, today's five-door Tipo Start costs £8,850, making it not only one of the best shopping cars but also one of the most unfairly ignored.

USED CAR BRIEF



ROVER METRO

The old Austin Metro was reborn in 1990 with a Rover badge on its bonnet. The "new" Metro – which has now become the old Metro with the arrival of the Rover 100 – was a massive improvement. The highly-regarded K Series Rover engine helped, in 1.1-litre and 1.4-litre guise, with a GTi 16-valve for a truly nippy town car. In three and five-door form, it offered snappy handling and ride and was a leading small hatchback when unveiled, though dated now against the rash of more modern competitors.



GOOD NEWS: The British-designed K Series 1.1-litre 59bhp, and 1.4-litre 75bhp engines, together with five-speed gearbox, were a revelation at the time and five years later are a match for many, more recently designed, small hatch town cars.

BAD NEWS: Claustrophobic rear with negligible leg room, together with a boot with space for sandwiches and small flask only, let down this small car in a big way. Three people and their luggage can forget it.

LOOK FOR: Base models offer best value for money, particularly the 1.1S (one trim level above basic), and 1.4S. Also a durable buy is the Peugeot-engined 1.4-litre diesel version introduced in 1992 (though beware of any diesel cars with mileages that seem suspiciously low). Look for rust round A pillar on later models and loose cabin fitments.

TO AVOID: Hot-hatch GTi versions suffer front-wheel tyre wear. Metros were a popular buy with driving schools so watch out for cars that have spent their lives with their clutches being mutilated. Popular in town, many Metros have a history – sometimes hidden with body filler and paint – of traffic bumps, shunts and parking scrapes.

INSURANCE: Cover from AA Insurance (0800 444777) on a 1991 Metro 1.1L, will cost a 55-year old male with full no claims bonus living in Winchester, £141 a year and a 55-year old female in Winchester with full NCB, £133.25. A 22-year old male with one year no claims bonus living in south London will pay £650, a female would pay £580.

SAFETY RATING: Small cars fare worst in accidents and the Metro was designed before the days of airbags and seatbelt pre-tensioners.

PRICE RANGE: Between £3,000 and £3,500 for a 1990 1.1S in three or five-door form, £4,500 for a 1991 J-registered 1.4SL on 35,000, £4,500 for a 1992 K-registered 1.1L five door, and up to £7,000 for a late model 1.4-litre GTi or GSi.

REPLACEMENT PARTS: (Prices include VAT); Clutch assembly £125; Full exhaust £235; front shock absorbers £30; front brake pads £45; rear brake pads £50; gearbox (exchange) £700; starter motor (exchange) £70; tyre; £40-50.

OVERALL: There are plenty of Metros around so take your time and shop carefully. The engine was ahead of its time so despite drawbacks of limited rear space and tiny boot it can still make a sound buy.

50 BESTSELLING USED CARS

MODEL	PRICE Jan-95	Feb-95	Chge
Honda Civic DX 3dr	8625	8475	-1.74
Toyota Corolla 1.3 GLi 3dr	9575	9250	-3.39
Vauxhall Astra 1.6 GLS 5dr	9295	9325	0.32
Citroën Xantia 1.6i 5dr	9575	9575	0.00
Daihatsu Charade 1.6 GSXi 3dr	8650	8795	1.68
Rover 214 Si 5dr	8875	8825	-0.56
Volvo 440 Li 5dr	8675	8825	1.73
Ford Fiesta RS 1800 3dr	9695	9750	0.57
Nissan Sunny 1.6i SLX 5dr	9695	9725	0.31
Renault 21 RT Estate	9595	9775	1.88
Seat Toledo 2.0 GTi 5dr	9825	9995	1.73
Peugeot 306 1.6i XS SR 3dr	9425	9725	3.18
Vauxhall Cavalier 1.6i Envoy 5dr	8825	8575	-2.83
Volkswagen Vento 1.8 CL 4dr	9595	9595	0.00
Alfa Romeo 33 1.7ie 5dr	8495	8650	1.82
Citroen ZX 2.0i Volcane 5dr	8875	8875	0.00
Ford Escort 1.6i Ghia 5dr	9350	9395	0.48
Renault 19 RT 5dr	9625	9795	1.77
Proton Persona 1.5 GLSi 5dr	8895	8725	-1.91
Peugeot 405 1.8 GR 4dr	9125	9275	1.64
Nissan Primera 2.0i LX 4dr	9250	9395	1.57
Vauxhall Corsa 1.6 GSi 3dr	9850	9775	-0.76
Suzuki Cappuccino 2dr	9850	9850	0.00
Volkswagen Polo G40 3dr	7975	8095	1.50
Ford Mondeo 1.8 LX 5dr	10195	9950	-2.40
Rover Montego 2.0 LX Estate	8775	8825	0.57
Vauxhall Cavalier 1.8i LS 5dr	9395	9150	-2.60
Volvo 460 1.8 Si 4dr	9325	9495	1.82
Volkswagen Golf 1.6 CL 5dr	9325	9495	1.82
Mazda 323 1.6 GLX 4dr	9525	9695	1.78
Honda Concerto 1.5i 5dr	9125	8950	-1.92
Ford Escort 1.6i LX 5dr	8995	8895	-1.11
Nissan Primera 1.6i SLX 5dr	9575	9750	1.83
Renault Laguna 1.8 RN 5dr	10095	9995	-0.99
Suzuki Vitara JLX 2dr	9695	9875	1.86
Toyota Carina E 1.6 Xi 4dr	8995	8950	-0.50
Rover 216 SLi 5dr	9950	9550	-4.02
Peugeot 405 1.6 GLi Estate	9375	9550	1.87
Daihatsu Applause 1.6 GLXi 5dr	9675	9975	1.03
Citroën ZX 1.4i Avantage Estate	8595	8595	0.00
Fiat Tempra 2.0 SLX Estate	9095	8995	-1.01
Alfa Romeo 33 1.7 Sportwagen	9675	9850	1.81
Vauxhall Cavalier 2.0 GLS 4dr	9895	9650	-2.48
Toyota Starlet 1.3 GLi 5dr	9095	9195	1.10
Volvo 440 1.8 Si 5dr	9550	9725	1.83
Renault Clio RSi 3dr	9995	9995	0.00
Nissan Sunny 1.6 LX 4dr	7975	8125	1.88
Mitsubishi 1600 GLXi 3dr	9695	9725	0.31
Ford Mondeo 1.6 LX 4dr	9525	9325	-2.10
Rover 420 SLi 4dr	10195	9725	-4.61

*Prices rounded to simulate actual dealer forecourt prices. HB = hatchback S = saloon. Price changes based on L-reg. low mileage cars. Figures supplied by **CAP Nationwide Motor Research.***

THE GTi, that beloved go-faster toy of young drivers which once faced extinction, is back.

Figures show a remarkable revival in sales of the infamous "hot hatchbacks", having weathered the storm of huge insurance price rises of the past few years. Trouble was that GTis were not only popular with buyers but also with thieves.

New security equipment seems to be cutting thefts and easing insurance worries judging by the latest figures. There are also plenty of good deals to be had with showrooms encouraging buyers through offers of cashbacks and discounts.

Volkswagen was first to report the change, selling twice as many Golf GTis and VR6 models in January as in the same month last year. The Germans have improved security equipment but cut prices by about £1,000 to keep cars moving against stiff competition. The result: GTis used to account for 9 per cent of Golf sales: this year that figure is 20 per cent. Peugeot also reports that sales of its 306 XSi and S16 models are up 17 per cent.

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Police chief leads the advance

Police chief leads the advance

THE Chief Constable of Sussex, Paul Whitehouse, an ardent biker, has become the first police chief to pass his advanced driving test on a motorcycle.

Mr Whitehouse, who frequently visits divisions of his force on his own motorbike, took the test with Terry Friday, an examiner from the Institute of Advanced Motorists. He said the test was a challenge but the debriefing afterwards was more valuable. "Terry took me through those parts of the ride I did well in, but more important he told me about the bits where I didn't do so well."

The chief constable said he had been conscious of his shortcomings as a rider before, but it was not until he had taken the test that he became aware of how to do better. "Now I have something to aim for and will practise what Terry suggested."

Mr Friday said: "He adjusted to the variety of road, traffic and weather conditions in a flexible style and demonstrated advanced motorcycling skills in a safe manner."



Whitehouse: passed

Better training and tighter laws are reducing motorcycle accidents, reports **Ronald Faux**

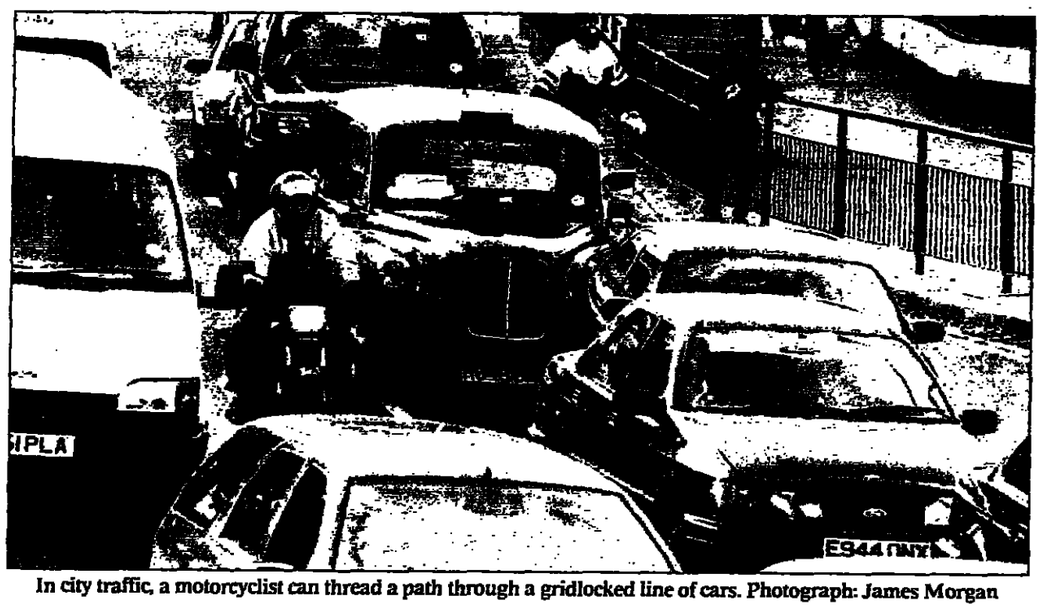
Two wheels — safer than four?

Two wheels are dangerous, I am told repeatedly by car drivers. But is the feel-safe factor surrounding them in their steel cocoons an illusion? On two wheels, danger is undisguised and concentrates the rider's mind wonderfully. "I tend to relax in a car. I feel protected. On a bike I'm like an egg on a parade ground," one motorcyclist tells me. "So many drivers seem to think that because they're sheltered by two doors, seatbelt, tin roof and a bonnet they are invulnerable. Haven't they seen what happens in a real smash?"

Thorough training now required by law, well-designed machines with automatic braking systems and high-tech protective riding gear have all helped to reduce the number of serious motorcycle accidents. Among the estimated one million riders in Britain, casualty numbers fell by 5 per cent in the third quarter of last year. There were 137 deaths and 1,871 serious injuries. Terrible enough statistics but nowhere near the carnage caused by motorists. According to the Motorcycle Rider Training Association, the trend towards fewer accidents is set to continue. As better training makes an impact and as young, inexperienced riders are directed towards less heroic machines by law, with insurance premiums looming large, motorcycling expects to record fewer accidents.

Kevin Kelly, the association's director, points out that motorcyclists, unlike car drivers, have already reached the year 2000 safety improvement target set by the Government, even though the number of new machines coming on to the roads has increased for the first time in 13 years.

The advantages of two wheels in city traffic are obvious. A motorcyclist can thread a path through a gridlocked line of cars. Parking is simple and often free. Fuel consumption, pollution and journey times are all reduced. Running costs such as servicing, insurance and road tax are all less.



In city traffic, a motorcyclist can thread a path through a gridlocked line of cars. Photograph: James Morgan

Against these plus points are the British climate and the rage some motorists express towards anyone trickling towards the head of the queue.

Linda Smout, president of the Motorcycle Retailers' Association, says: "People are finally beginning to realise the value of two wheels for commuting or as a handy extra means of transport in the family.

"Some stylish mopeds operate at the press of a button and do more than 100 miles to a gallon. With proper training for learner drivers and a sensible, defensive approach to the roads, the risks are at a minimum."

Motorcyclists argue that the qualities deemed to make big bikes dangerous — fast acceleration and the potential to reach phenomenal speeds — are in fact safety features in responsible hands. A European Union proposal to limit engine power on motorcycles to no more than 100bhp they see as misguided.

"It's the way the vehicle, any vehicle, is driven that determines how dangerous it is," says Mr Kelly. "A driver's ability to read the road ahead, to anticipate danger and to stay within braking distances are all far more relevant to safety than the size of the engine.

"Being relatively narrow and nimble, a motorcyclist may often manoeuvre his way out of trouble where a car driver would simply have to sit there and take it."

Years ago the BBC published a book called *Sorry Mate, I Didn't See You* as a survivor's guide to motorcycling. I treasure my copy for its ironic style, black humour and sound advice. Tim Monaghan wrote it, he says, because too many riders have ended up on crutches or as a greasy wisp of smoke because of ignorance or inexperience. His ten golden rules, highlighted above on this page, are of more use to bikers, he suggests, than the Ten Commandments.

Should the unavoidable crunch happen and a motorist does roll his car in their path, riders are now better prepared for the impact than when all they had for protection was a reversed flat cap and raincoat.

The latest in body armour, impact resistant headgear and more hide than the average buffalo, convert the modern rider into a formidable missile. With every vulnerable joint sheathed in Kevlar or carbon fibre, feet and shins guarded by shock resistant steel and plastic and head encased in a high-tech dome with tinted visor, a motorcyclist may well resemble the Black Knight ready for a jousting tourney. Riding into motorway rage and gridlocked anger, the comparison may not be far off the mark.

TEN GOLDEN RULES ON SAFETY

1. Always look back before any manoeuvre
2. Always have enough space and time to complete a manoeuvre
3. Signal your intentions clearly and well in advance
4. If in doubt, don't overtake
5. Never ride so fast that you can't stop in the distance you can see ahead
6. Dress for an accident, even if you're sure you're not going to have one
7. Keep your bike fit for the road, and yourself as well
8. Brake hard only in a straight line
9. Prove that you are a courteous as well as a skilful rider
10. Remember that everyone else on the road is an idiot!

DR DASHBOARD

Should I buy a second-hand car?

Q We want to buy a car but don't want to pay high prices for a new model. But is a second-hand car worth the risk?

A Why not? Cars are better made than ever and high mileage models offer good value. They are better protected against rust, and engines and gearboxes are tested to enormous mileages. Nearly new cars, as the trade describes one or two-year-old models, often come with warranty cover.

Q Is this a good time to buy?

A Yes because there are a lot of cars which have been traded in over the past few weeks so prices are reasonably low with dealers looking to bargain.

Q So where should we start?

A Start by deciding how much you want to pay and what sort of car you want. No use having £6,000 for a family runabout and then looking at a used Jaguar. Then again, an old Jag might be the perfect family transport if you like luxury. Be clear on your motoring and cost priorities.

Q How do we know we won't be sold a lemon?

A For a start, check who you are buying from. Make sure dealers are reputable and belong to the Retail Motor Industry Federation, which has its own ombudsman if anything goes wrong. Big franchised garages have their own used schemes, such as Vauxhall's Network Q, which checks the car before it is sold.

Q Does that mean we shouldn't go for a private sale?

A Not necessarily. Private vendors are just as willing to bargain — but there are pitfalls. Always meet the vendor at their home to ensure they are genuine (shady dealers sometimes advertise and then offer to come to meet you). Drive the car and even have it checked by the AA or RAC. Fees start at £119.

Q Is there any way to be sure the car hasn't been in a crash, stolen or had its mileage altered?

A Legislation to protect buyers is not in place yet but there is one call you can make to ease fears. HPI Autodata in Salisbury, Wiltshire, runs a tracking service to identify cars which might be write-offs welded back together, stolen or which have had mileages turned back, known as "clocking". It costs £25.

Q We would try an auction to get a good deal but they terrify us with all those Arthur Daley types around.

A The auction industry has been cleaning up its act and the biggest, such as CMA and ADT, try to give buyers as much confidence as they would have in a dealership. ADT gives all its cars a thorough check and offers inspections before sale.

Q Is there a simple list of instructions to follow?

A Get the car checked by an expert, always see it in daylight and check you are insured for a test drive, see proof of ownership documents, don't be pushed beyond your top price by smart salesmen, don't pay a deposit unless you really want the car and don't pay the full amount until you are holding the registration documents.

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Seeing hazards by ESP

Mercedes has developed a system that corrects loss of control before it happens. **Michael Scarlett** tests it

The car is £76,000 worth of Mercedes SL500; under the great slab of sloping bonnet is more than 300 horsepower in a 5-litre V8, capable of shoving this rich-man's, brutishly styled big sports coupe to 60mph in a mere 6.2secs, then on to a genuine 155mph maximum.

You are, however, driving it round a half-mile diameter circular track cut between snow walls, on top of a 6ft-thick skin of ice over a lake in northern Sweden. Common sense tells you to drive very gently; but you have the accelerator pedal thrust to the toe board, which even in a much less powerful car would have its engine howling and driving wheels spinning helplessly as the car slid uncontrollably outwards.

The Mercedes is beautifully under control, motoring safe and securely round the circle at a stately 50mph, its engine ambling over sweetly.

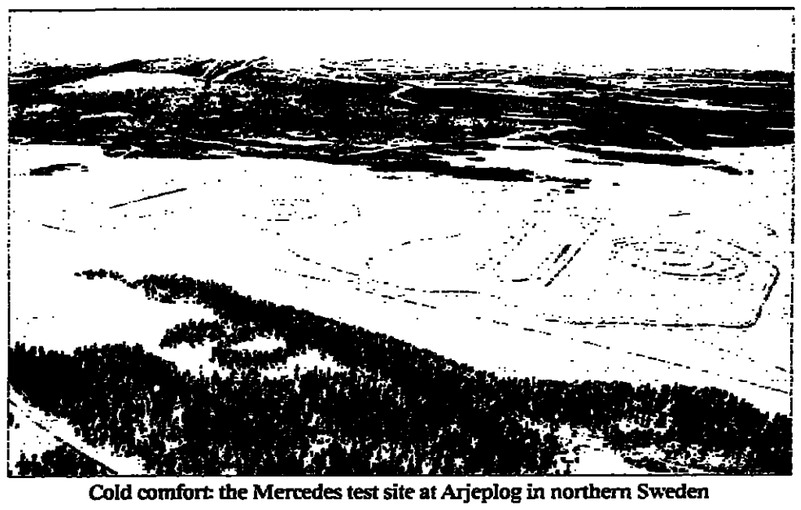
Of course, traction control systems, which a machine like this Mercedes will certainly have, are well known now; after all, Mercedes was, with BMW, the first to offer what they call ASR in German (which roughly translates as anti-slip system).

Traction control works in a similar way to anti-lock brakes. It senses when a driving wheel starts to spin uselessly and, usually by a mixture of automatic control of braking and engine, gets the wheel gripping again.

It has its limits, though, which are easily demonstrated round a deserted test circle on ice. You drive, listening to the engine regardless of your flat-to-the-floor right foot pushing the car along. You keep your foot down and the car gradually goes faster — until either the front or back wheels lose grip, and you slide outwards.

Try the same experiment with this big beauty and things start off the same; the speed over the ice rises steadily. But as the car gets near to where experience tells you it should start to skid, you feel a small hesitation, then another, and another, as if the brakes were being prodded momentarily, the car wriggling slightly as it checks itself.

You keep that foot down, and in a short time the Mercedes gets into an irregular rhythm of these small jerks, feeling like someone driving hesitantly; there's a little yellow triangle flashing at you from the middle of the speedometer, and now you cannot help instinctively correcting the small incipient slides as the SL starts to break away, but then doesn't. Instead it settles into cornering in small front and rear wheel breakaways, mostly more rear, so that the car's nose is pointing inward slightly most of the time.



Cold comfort: the Mercedes test site at Arjeplog in northern Sweden

This is what Mercedes-Benz calls the Electronic Stability Programme, which abbreviates to ESP — quite suitable in English because there is a touch of extra sensory perception about this electronic control system's action. To appreciate how clever it is, there is a switch marked ESP which you press.

The yellow warning triangle flashes, then glows steadily to remind you that you're on your own now. You drive gingerly, with just a touch on the beautifully progressive pedal, as anything firmer on the throttle sends the revs rising and the tail swinging out: you try to increase the speed gradually; the car becomes uneasy, and soon slides out helplessly.

How does ESP work? Fundamentally, the idea rests on a simple brake problem well known to owners of pre-war or badly-kept cars.

If, for whatever reason, the brake in, say, a left-side wheel works better than the other three, when you slow, the car pulls or swerves to the left.

Although it does not interfere with normal braking, ESP has automatic control over the brakes, so it can work any one wheel's brake alone. If the car's back wheels start to slide outwards — oversteer — whilst traction control restrains the engine, ESP simultaneously brakes the outside front wheel, which makes a correcting pull on the car. If the front wheels begin skidding outwards — understeer — ESP applies the inside rear wheel's brake, to pull the car round.

How does ESP "know" that the car is skidding, or diverting from the driver's intended direction of travel? In a car like the test SL500, there are already a variety of sensors needed for the anti-lock braking (ABS) and traction control, and ESP relies on most of these.

It does, however, need some extra ones. Devices which measure movement of the steering wheel, accelerator pedal and brake pedal "tell" ESP what the driver intends. Another measures lateral "g" — how hard the car is being cornered — and finally there is the "yaw" sensor, which detects how much the car tends to rotate about its centre; in other words, it senses skidding.

As with the modern form of anti-lock braking, and traction control, Mercedes-Benz developed the Electronic Stability Programme jointly with Bosch, the German electronics firm. Mercedes says, from its Stuttgart headquarters, that it is "positive that in a few years' time, this active safety-enhancing system will have acquired the same significance as the airbag has in passive safety today".

ESP will appear on all S-class and SL cars, plus the E-class replacement, towards the end of this year, at around £700 extra, and on the rest of the Mercedes-Benz range — including the projected Mercedes "baby" car, the A-class — by 2000 at the latest.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Virgin sets out to master traffic jams

Virgin Atlantic has installed Trafficmaster, the motorway information system, in its chauffeur-driven fleet of 80 Range Rovers.

The cars take business flyers to and from airports and Virgin says that information about heavy traffic on the motorways and 400 miles of trunk roads covered by Trafficmaster is vital to avoid hold-ups.

Renault success

Renault scored two successes in *Fleet Car* magazine's Car of the Year awards. The Laguna RT 2.0 was judged best in the upper medium class while the Clio RL Prima 1.9D was voted best supermini.

New Audi diesel

Audi has introduced a new entry level diesel model to its A6 range. Starting at £19,260, the 1.9 TDI should boost sales of Audi diesels, predicted to rise by 65 per cent this year to more than 1,400 cars. Top of the range is the 140bhp 2.5TDI estate at £24,935.

£14,375 Sedan

Peugeot has added an automatic to its 306 Sedan range, made at Ryton, near Coventry. With a four-speed auto box mated to a 2.0-litre engine, the new Sedan costs £14,375.

Happy Honda

The Ministry of Defence has ordered £1 million worth of motorcycles from Honda. The ST1100 bikes will be used by military police and for escort duties, replacing some BMW and Norton machines.

Discount offer

Low-risk drivers are being offered discounts worth up to 65 per cent by Legal & General. The company says that there will be special prices for people who do not drive to work or use their cars for business.

Opening move

Johnson Matthey, the world's biggest manufacturer of catalytic converters, this week opened a European Auto-catalyst Technology Centre at Royston, Hertfordshire. The £5 million centre will pioneer clean-exhaust technologies.

Prices change

Citroen prices are up by an average 1.3 per cent. However, increases on the Xantia mid-range cars — competing against tough rivals, such as the Ford Mondeo, Vauxhall Cavalier and Rover 600 — are held to under 1 per cent.

Fast forward: modern aids mean the disabled can swap their three-wheelers for the latest sports cars

Keep the carriage, mine's a Porsche

Andrew Healey, who is disabled, explains why he could now drive just about any car he chooses

When, nearly ten years ago, I found myself in Stoke Mandeville hospital with a broken back after a helicopter crash, I wrote down a list of pros and cons to my new lifestyle. The "good news" list mostly contained silly things like "shoes will last for ever" and "I won't have to play squash any more". The rather longer "bad news" one included the fear that I would lose my beloved Sunbeam Lotus in favour of one of those odd light-blue invalid carriages. I was right about the squash, wrong about the car.

As part of its rehabilitation programme, the hospital arranged a driving assessment in a car modified with hand controls, and I discovered I could drive almost any vehicle I liked. When I left hospital I did actually sell the Lotus and buy a VW Scirocco, but I could have stuck with it or indeed bought almost any car I wanted.

The only concession I made to the disability at the time was to switch to an automatic, which is more simply adapted. Today, with exactly the same conversion but for a lot more cash, I could drive a semi-automatic Porsche 911 with sequential gear buttons on the steering wheel.

The most basic set of hand controls for an automatic consists of rods bolted to the brake and accelerator pedals, which attach via a system of levers and linkages to a single handle positioned below the steering wheel. You pull for go and push for stop. You soon get used to it (on my second drive in the Scirocco I had to make an emergency stop when a small boy ran out in front of the car) and you can keep both hands on the wheel for most of the time.

Because the controls are fitted to the existing pedals, the car may continue to be driven in the conventional manner and can be sold to an able-bodied driver just by undoing a few bolts.

All my adaptations have been fitted by Brian Page of Egham in Surrey, who showed me what else I could have chosen, depending on degree of disability and depth of pocket. First, there are kits available for any car with automatic transmission. Second, most manual cars can be adapted by fitting a microswitch inside the gear knob which operates a servo to depress the clutch pedal. So you grasp the lever and select a gear after the servo does its job. The original French design costs about £1,500 now, so Brian is developing his own.

If my disability meant I had difficulty reaching the column stalks, I could have chosen a steering ball which incorporates all the switches, including the horn. Finally, if my arms were very weak, I could incorporate a mechanical steering amplifier to translate my slight hand movements to wheel ones. My friend Trevor Jones uses one of those in his Chrysler Voyager passion wagon.

A pitfall arises with a manual because under some circumstances, you can run out of hands — changing gear on a corner requires some nifty handwork. It gets worse. Older Porsches have the handbrake on the right-hand side — try doing a hill start in one of those.

Ian Fraser of Lowestoft, a paraplegic Porsche driver, uses regular hand controls. He's had the handbrake problem with past models but now drives a 968 with a Tiptronic gear-box. This uses a highly sensitive clutchless design with either an automatic or manual sequence. Being Porsche, it's a very slick gear change, says Ian, so if he selects the manual option, he only has to take one hand off the wheel for a split second. The day when Tiptronic and sequential gearbox technology filters down to the real world will be a fine one, although driving may become more like playing the accordion for some disabled people.

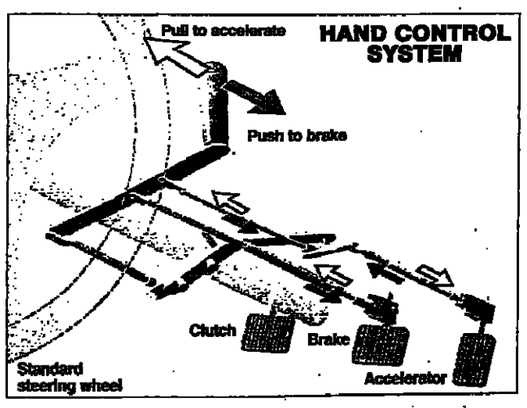
The drawback with hand controls is that they are specifically made for each model — not just make — of car, so if you change your Scirocco for a VW Golf, as I did, you still need to buy a whole new set of levers and linkages. If only car manufacturers built their steering columns with a degree of commonality — as apparently they do in America — that would be the single most important advance in mobility for disabled drivers since the invalid carriage.

Actually, I was wrong about the invalid carriages as well. Although numbers have steadily declined since the Mobility Allowance gave the disabled freedom of choice for their transport needs, 3,000 people still prefer the lighter, handlebar steering that such a vehicle offers. They obviously work for some but, given the choice between one of those and a regular car with one or two simple adaptations, I know which I'd go for.

So I could still be driving the Sunbeam Lotus. But hey — where would we put the kids and dog? Life goes on.



Times past: the traditional invalid carriage is now far from the only option available to the disabled



Getting back on the road

THROW a problem about driving and disability at Morigue Cornwell and she will have an answer. As director of Banstead Mobility Centre in Carshalton, Surrey, there are few problems she hasn't seen and found a solution to (Anne-Marie Sapsted writes).

She tells some extraordinary stories: there was the MS sufferer who arrived at the centre driving an ordinary car, who had to take her hands off the steering wheel to lift her foot from the brake to the accelerator. There was another driver so badly crippled by arthritis that she always had to have a passenger to help steer round sharp corners and to park. There was the amputee who had driven an ordinary manual car — without incident — for 20 years, using just one hand and his knee to help the steering wheel when necessary. In each case, the centre offered easier and safer adaptations.

"The point is you wouldn't go out in your bedroom slippers to do the gardening," says Mrs Cornwell. "You need the right tools and equipment for the job, and more than anything else we give information about what is available."

There are special vehicles at the centre to demonstrate gadgets designed to help disabled drivers and passengers.



Morigue Cornwell: 'We found many drivers who had suffered strokes were safer than able-bodied ones'

One of its main functions is to offer a full assessment for those affected by, for example, a stroke, cerebral palsy, head injury or spina bifida to determine their ability to drive. There is an outdoor road system complete with crossings and junctions where clients can be given a test and some drivers will be given a road test. Only around 7 per cent are judged unsuitable as drivers.

> 'Mobility is the key, and there is so much that can be done'

"Around half the people we see are drivers who want to go back to driving," says Mrs Cornwell. "The others are young disabled people who want to learn. There are many who come here thinking they are no longer fit to drive, but it is often a simple question of the car not being modified to the individual.

"We did a research project comparing the abilities of 50 disabled drivers to those of 50 matched able-bodied drivers. Many of the former had retrained, and we found more of the able-bodied drivers had bad driving habits, and were therefore a danger to others.

"Mobility is the key for disabled people to employment, social life, education, everything. Whole families can become immobile because one member is disabled and yet there is so much that can be done."

A basic assessment costs about £50, or for those with brain damage as well as physical injury it is £90. Write, enclosing SAE, to Banstead Mobility Centre, Damson Way, Orchard Hill, Queen Mary's Avenue, Carshalton, Surrey SM5 4NR (0181-770 1151).

Mobility Advice and Vehicle Information Service (MAVIS), Department of Transport TRL Crowthorne, Berks RG11 6AU, (0344 770456).

Andrew Pierce meets a soap opera star with a yen for singing arias

Arthur's lament — what happens to our road tax?

Bill Treacher, alias the long-suffering Arthur Fowler in *EastEnders*, is one of the few surviving members of the original cast of the soap opera which celebrated its tenth birthday last week.

Arthur, one of its most popular characters, has lost countless jobs, had a breakdown, had an affair, been thrown out of home, and been reunited with his indomitable wife, Pauline. No wonder Treacher has decided to quit the series. The best part of the job? "When I get into my car and drive back to Suffolk each weekend," he says.

How did you learn to drive?

I was one of the original railway children. I worked in the rear van, as a tailboard monkey, to stop people pinching parcels. I used my spare time learning to drive in the railway yards on lorries. It was all unlicensed. Years later I passed my test at the first attempt.

What was your first car?

An old 1930s Daimler with a pre-selective gearbox, leather upholstery, running-board and an oil fly-wheel, which gave a whirring noise when starting the engine. She was a lovely lady, very stately.

What car do you drive now?

A Honda Accord Aerodeck. It's fast, smooth and has everything. I just touch the button and it goes.

Do you enjoy driving?

Not much. Too little courtesy. I am afraid I have contributed to the decline in motoring standards. I have given a few people a shock when they see Arthur behind the wheel. They expect to see me behind a vegetable stall.

STEERING COLUMN

What is your dream car?

A Bentley. Comfortable, quiet and solid. Pure class. But I would worry about the petrol consumption.

What is your most hated car?

The second-hand Daf I had about 20 years ago. It was propelled by rubber bands. It went wrong every two months. I was sold a pup.

What is your worst habit in the car?

I'm prone to bursting forth into operatic arias, which are greatly unappreciated by my children.

What infuriates you most about other drivers?

The self-righteous of those who when you do something wrong, and we all have, reward you with a "how dare you" expression.

What is the most unusual thing you have done in your car?

My Morris 1000, which I had for 11 years, was falling apart. Then disaster struck. The front seat broke and I could not afford to repair it. I wedged a large tea chest behind the seat to keep it upright. It was the only way I could stay on the road. It kept me going for months. It didn't do much for my back though.

Have you ever had penalty points on your licence?

Yes. For speeding home to Suffolk, literally, from the *EastEnders* studio on a Saturday. I was almost home when an unmarked police car nabbed me.

If you were Secretary of State for Transport, what is the first thing you would do?

I would launch an immediate investigation to try to discover where the vast sum collected in road tax actually goes. Then I would fund research into "Cone Disease", which is threatening the survival of all British roads.

What's your most hated car ad?

Bloody Nicole. She could prove to be very expensive. My daughter, Sophie, looks just like her and is demanding the same car on her next birthday. She's only 16 — and she never calls me papa!

PETER TREVNOR



Bill Treacher and his beloved Honda Accord: "I just touch the button and it goes"



When in a prang, dial the dent man

IF YOUR car grinds to a halt by the roadside you call the AA, RAC or one of the other breakdown services. What do you do, though, if it is badly dented in an accident or by vandals?

The answer could be Dentmaster, a sort of flying dent-removal service which now covers the country from Kent to Scotland and across to Wales. Ironically, its first customer this year was its founder, Lance Leonhardt, a 38-year-old Texan who brought the idea of on-the-spot panel-straightening to this country in 1993.

He returned from the supermarket to find a dent in the door of his Range Rover and no sign of the driver who had caused the damage. So he called out his own service. "At least I saved about £100, using our own £65 panel repair service in place of a body-shop bill of at least £160," he said.

Dentmaster uses a team of specially trained engineers, each equipped with tools which enable them to repair dents *in situ* without damage to the paintwork. Training the engineers in the technique of massaging away the dents can take anything up to two months.

The company claims the doorstep service avoids the need for paint-matching, which if badly done can reduce a vehicle's value.

Dentmaster: 0800 433687

Fans pay £6,500 tribute to legend of Jim Clark

The wee hamlet of Kilmany, deep in the rich farming country of northeast Fife, might seem an unlikely setting for a memorial to a Scot some claim was the greatest racing driver of them all (Alan Jenkins writes).

Ironically, the people who live there have been nagging at their councillors to curb the young motorists who use the winding lanes as a speedy short cut home on the A914 from the nearby town of Cupar.

Yet a group of enthusiasts, among them a retired police superintendent, an architect and a farmer, plan to raise money to put up a statue of the legendary Jim Clark. The family of the twice world champion, who won 25 grand prix races, was farming at West Kilmany when he was born there nearly 60 years ago.

This week the latest contribution to their appeal, two nose cones from Team Lotus Formula One grand prix cars, went up for sale at Christie's in South Kensington. "So far we have nearly £4,000 and another £2,500 will pay for a statue," says the appeal secretary, Ian Thomson.

On holiday in the Borders three years ago, he visited the Jim Clark trophy collection at Duns, where the Clark family moved when Jim was six. "The locals asked me why we had done nothing in Fife for the man who was born there. I found that an appeal had been started but had waned. We got it going again."

Jim Clark entered his first race in 1956 at the age of 20. Two years later he became Scottish national speed champion and progressed rapidly to grand prix racing. Clark was killed in a Formula 2 race in Germany in 1968.

Mr Thomson said: "A talented Scottish sculptor had already created a 12in-maquette from which a statue could be fashioned. It was seen by Clark's parents before they died and they thought it totally characteristic of their son."

The sculptor was David Annand, whose work appears in many public places in Scotland. He lives in Pigscrave Cottage, near the spot chosen for the statue. In his garden is another sculpture, one the farmer turned racing driver would have approved of — a lively-looking pig.



Legend of the track: Jim Clark won 25 grand prix races

Alarm over lax tyre checks

MOST motorists reading this page are almost certainly driving on tyres that at worst could cost them a court appearance or even their lives, and at best are costing them money (Vaughan Freeman writes).

The first national survey on tyre care has found that nine in ten motorists are driving on incorrectly inflated tyres, and one in three on tyres that are dangerously inflated. A margin of more than 5lb per square inch over or under the recommended pressure can seriously upset a car's handling and braking characteristics, sometimes with lethal effect.

Motorists running on illegally worn tyres face fines of up to £2,500 per tyre. Wrongly inflated tyres wear out faster and increase fuel consumption.

The survey follows a police inquiry into an accident on the A40 in Gloucester, in which two people died. It found that a Ford Escort involved had its front tyres over-inflated by 13psi (pounds per square inch), which had caused them to wear bald, while the rear tyres were seriously underinflated.

Now the RAC, and Iain Mills, MP, joint chairman of the all-party Motor Industry Group, are backing calls for a campaign to educate motorists about what is probably the most crucial — but most overlooked — part of their car. The survey reported that one in three motorists never checked their tyres.

Edmund King, the RAC's campaigns manager, said: "No matter how advanced a vehicle may be, steering, roadholding, acceleration and braking are all ultimately determined by tyres."

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CHRIS HARRIS



Is he for real? Jennai Cox and her silent partner finding in Covent Garden that you can fool some of the people some of the time, but . . .

Safe and soundless with Albert, the quiet man

Strong but silent, is he the lone woman's perfect passenger? asks **Kevin Eason**

My friend Albert is not good company on a long journey. In fact, in a contest between watching paint dry and talking to Albert, the damp Dulux is a clear winner. Dull as he is, though, his stoic quality could be helpful to motorists.

Albert is a dummy: an inflatable bag of wind with a mop of hair that would do Elton John proud. Prop him up in the passenger seat and he becomes a bodyguard, the strong if somewhat silent type who could deter a thief from forcing his way in.

Motorists are at their most vulnerable when alone. Seconds at traffic lights are enough for a car-jacker to get inside and steal — or worse. Women are clearly the most likely victims, and the idea for Albert came from Maggie Lamb, a viola player with the Philharmonia Orchestra.

Maggie was travelling home through London late one night when a man leapt into her car at traffic lights and demanded she take him home. She had the presence of mind to sound the horn and drive away quickly, but realised she might not have been attacked if someone had been in the passenger seat.

Determined to have a motoring "minder", she found David Woodman, whose company made inflatable bags . . . and Albert was born. The name comes from the 1953 Jack Warner movie *Albert RN*, in which prisoners-of-war replaced a fleeing naval officer with a dummy.

Albert is only a PVC plastic bag but the head is uncannily real. At a distance, or in the dark, he could easily pass as real.

Mr Woodman, who now runs the Silent Passenger Company, says: "We have had some bizarre experiences with him. One woman was stopped at a police road block and asked for her passenger's name and details. Another left Albert in the car while she popped into a shop and a traffic warden asked him to move the car along."

To test Albert's credibility, we put him a car with Jennai Cox, a researcher at *The Times*, and sent them off to Covent Garden. "The reaction was largely acceptance," Jennai says. "A few people did a double-take. They were not sure whether Albert was just another pasty-faced commuter, and it was only when they walked right up to the car that they could see he was not real.

"It was uncanny because a couple of times I looked at him as though I really was with someone else."

● *Albert was supplied by The Silent Passenger Company, Victoria House, Guildford Road, Ash, Aldershot, Hants GU12 6DX. Price: £29.99.*

Cavaliers in fires mystery

A *Car 95* investigation has triggered a string of irate complaints about vehicle blazes, reports **Tony Dawe**

Vauxhall is being pressed by insurance companies and shaken motorists to explain mystery fires which have wrecked dozens of Cavaliers, the firm's best-selling model.

Most fires started without warning as drivers were at the wheel. The first sign for many was that the windscreen wipers began to work unexpectedly or that the dashboard lights came on. The end result for most was that their cars were written off.

Anxious motorists and insurers contacted *Car 95* following our investigation last week which led Renault to recall 4,000 Espace turbo diesels to modify a fault which had caused several fires while drivers and their families were inside the "people-carriers".

The investigation also prompted more Espace owners to report similar fires and to complain of Renault's "indifference" to the fault. Some said their Renault dealers knew nothing about the recall.

Most of the mystery Cavalier fires affected 1.6, 1.8 and 2-litre models, registered between 1989 and 1991, and started behind the dashboard, leading to speculation that they could have been caused by a common electrical fault.

Vauxhall ordered modifications to this group of models in 1991, warning that the engine wiring harness could foul the starter solenoid terminal or clutch housing. The company insisted yesterday, however, that the spate of mystery fires were "isolated cases with no pattern".

The catalogue of Cavalier fires has been drawn up by Martin Cross, claims superintendent for the Ansvar insurance company. He handled a claim from a Cavalier owner who saw his 1989 model go up in smoke after noticing a strong smell of burning.

Mr Cross suspected a manufacturing fault might be to blame, and obtained a long list of written-off Cavaliers from the insurance industry's total loss register. From this he identified 250 write-offs caused by mystery fires. He then wrote to 53 insurance companies for details and has pinpointed 38 similar cases.

"Two had even affected Cavaliers with consecutive number plates," he said. "All of these cars caught fire spontaneously. One motorist had just dropped his wife at church when the windscreen wipers and wash came on unexpectedly. As he took the key out of the ignition, he noticed smoke under the dashboard and then the starter motor engaged and the fire worsened".

Vauxhall said yesterday that it had examined all these incidents and believed they were unconnected. "We are satisfied there is no problem and that in many cases wiring had been rerouted following accident damage or the fitting of alarms and extra sound systems," a spokesman said.

Mr Cross has now written to the transport department's vehicle inspectorate, seeking full details of the investigation because of continuing concern about a rectifiable fault.

Owners of the many Renault Espaces which caught fire are also considering further action following Renault's admission that a fault had led to the blazes. Many whose cars were gutted have complained that they were not compensated in full by their insurance companies.

Martin Halliday, of Gimingham, Norfolk, who saw his wife, parents and children escape as his car caught fire, said: "If Renault is to blame, the company should pay the disputed amount of our claims and compensation for the trauma and inconvenience we have suffered." He wants other victims to contact him to discuss possible joint legal action.

Insurance companies including the Norwich Union and Prudential are pursuing the fires with Renault and if they obtain refunds for claims they have met, they will reinstate no-claims discounts for those involved.

Astras recalled

Vauxhall yesterday recalled all Astras built in the last three years because of a potential fire risk when the car is being filled with petrol. Tests in Germany have found that static electricity during refuelling can cause a small flame which could burn motorists as well as the car.



The Cavalier: dozens destroyed by mystery fires



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OUTDOORS



The mole: Should we tolerate or simply terminate?

Page 8

PLUS: Paul Heiney with Farmer's Diary, page 8

GAMES

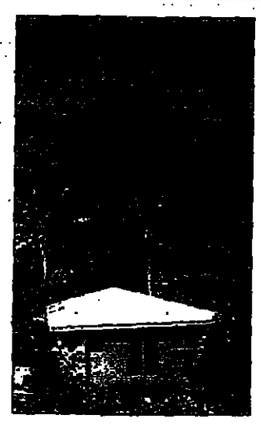


Test your wit on our Punch caption contest

Page 21

PLUS: The Listener Crossword, page 21

TRAVEL



Libby Purves in the Virgin Islands

Page 14

PLUS: A nautical day in Portsmouth, page 17

ARTS



Richard Morrison: The ailing career of a material girl

Page 5

PLUS: The RSC and its touring caravan, page 5

WEEKEND

THE MAN WHO COLLECTS DAFFODILS



By Stephen Anderton

How many flowers grow in an English country garden? When the garden is Martin Harwood's, the answer is about 100,000. And they are almost all daffodils. A few miles down the road, near Chobham in Surrey, is his overflow garden, an acre of nothing but daffodils. Together, Mr Harwood's gardens make up the National Collection of Narcissi. In his living room window stands a smiling ceramic gnome, proudly holding a vase of show daffodils. This is "Mr Daff", and there are no prizes for guessing who he is meant to be.

Life for Mr Harwood has been narcissocentric for many years. As a boy he was a specialist stamp collector. Now those collections live in the attic, and the lasting passion is daffodils. He grows 2,800 cultivars and has hundreds of the wild species and their forms. Altogether, his is the largest collection of one kind of plant in this country.

In gardening there can be two disparate camps of serious collectors — the "species snobs" who will grow nothing without a pedigree vouching for its wild origin, and the lovers of "vulgar" man-made flowers. Mr Harwood's passion for daffodils encompasses both. He can get just as excited about the species *Narcissus hedraeanthus*, with flowers barely reaching an inch from the soil, as he can about tall, fully double daffodils whose raggedy petals display all the charm of a sucked orange.

It was only when he and his wife, Tracy, moved from nearby Byfleet to their present cottage in the countryside, in 1977, that Mr Harwood, a confessed townie, became at all interested in gardening. He plunged straight into growing daffodils, not knowing quite why, and began showing them not in the local shows but in the national shows of the Daffodil Society at Westminster and in the Midlands at Solihull. Six years later he was growing a staggering 1,600 varieties in his back garden, thoroughly hooked on collecting and combining it all with a busy, full-time job as assistant to the chief executive of the local authority.

Then the boys, Daniel and Graeme (now eight and ten years old), came along and more space was needed. So Mr Harwood set about extending and altering the house, a small farm worker's cottage on a quiet country lane, as a major DIY project. "I don't like plastering and I don't like electrics, but the rest is mine," he says. Walls came down and walls went up. Work was gradual, and the family lived there through it all, because by then the daffodils had become an even more serious preoccupation. The collection was now recognised as the National Collection of Narcissi, by the National Council for the Conservation of Plants and Gardens (NCCPG), which was formed in 1978 to conserve our garden plants heritage after garden historians began to realise that many varieties of garden plants had become extinct, victims of garden-centre standardisation. A council spokesman says: "It has

Continued on page 3, col 1

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MUSEUMS

John Russell Taylor

THE RUMBUSTIOUS WORLD OF THOMAS ROWLANDSON: And pretty raunchy *it sometimes is*, even though this show of Rowlandson's usually hand-coloured prints, produced between 1774 and 1822, does not venture into his most explicitly sexual work. There is still plenty left in which one can appreciate his gleefully scatalogical approach to political satire, and a certain amount where the paradoxically poetic quality of his observation is also in evidence. Also, *Drawings by Adriaen and Isaack van Ostade*, of 17th-century peasants, basic but not bawdy; and Bonaventura Genelli's two extraordinary series of Neo-Classical prints *From the Life of an Artist* and *From the Life of a Wastrel*. **British Museum**, Great Russell Street, London WC1 (0171-636 1555) Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sunday 2.30-6pm, until April 23.

GEOFFREY CLARKE: Having just turned 70, Clarke is at that difficult stage for any artist, around too long to be surprising anymore, but not yet a Grand Old Man. He has always made less splash in the world than his close contemporaries Anthony Carlo and Eduardo Paolozzi, but this touring retrospective should help to redress the balance. His sculpture, with its abstracted forms, sometimes sinuous, sometimes spiky, is always distinctive and shows his ability to absorb what is going on around him without being dominated by it. His early prints show a surprising kinship with Klee and the wartime Neo-Romantics, while in the later metal sculptures he seems to arrive at a wholly personal reconciliation between organic and mechanic. **Herbert Art Gallery and Museum**, Jordan Well, Coventry (01203-832 381) Mon-Sat 10am-5.30pm, Sun 2-5pm, until March 26.

JAZZ

Clive Davis

TRISTANOW: Of all the innovators who explored new paths for improvisation in the Fifties, as the bebop revolution gradually ran out of steam, the introverted pianist Lennie Tristano was the most shadowy. Rejecting the well-worn chordal structures that had served so many bop musicians up to that time — structures that had grown as rigid and predictable as those they had originally supplanted — Tristano devised more rigorously composed forms, using irregular metres and polytonality. In his fastidious work you can sense influences of both "cool jazz" and the early stirrings of the avant garde. Birmingham Jazz's tribute to Tristano is built around the Dutch pianist Michiel Braam, who will perform "C Minor Complex" and "Turkish Mambo", as well as new pieces that draw on Tristano's ideas. He will be joined by his compatriots Wilbert de Joode (bass) and Frank Nielander, plus two fine young British players, Martin France (drums) and the saxophonist Iain Ballamy, both former members of Loose Tubes. **Midlands Arts Centre**, Cannon Hill Park, Birmingham (Info 0121-414 5703/454 2371) tomorrow, 8pm.

ANDY SHEPPARD/CARLA BLEY: There are those that feel that Andy Sheppard produces his most inventive soloing not in his small group nor in his orchestra, known as Big Co-Motion, but in the occasional trio he leads with the American composer and piano player Carla Bley and the bassist Steve Swallow. Though their early ventures together may have been marked by a few false starts and thematic cul-de-sacs, their musical conversations have grown ever more confident and adventurous. The iconoclastic Bley never takes herself too seriously, and there should be humour aplenty in the guest appearance by the comedian and raconteur Ivor Cutler. **Queen Elizabeth Hall**, South Bank, London SE1 (0171-928 8800) Friday.

CLASSICAL

Richard Morrison

THE FORTIES: At Symphony Hall in Birmingham and at London's South Bank, an enormous festival called "The Forties: War and Peace" has just opened and runs for two months. It is the latest instalment of the "Towards the Millennium" series which celebrates a decade each year and, as before, Sir Simon Rattle and his City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra are at its heart. Tonight in London they repeat the gloriously virtuosic programme of Stravinsky's *Orpheus*, Messiaen's *Trois Petites Liturgies* and Bartok's Concerto for Orchestra which launched the festival in Birmingham. In later concerts the music ranges from Elliott Carter to Glenn Miller. **Festival Hall**, South Bank London SE1 (0171-928 8800), tonight, 7.30.

HELDENTENOR'S JUBILEE: Despite his name, Alberto Remedios is as British as roast beef — and indeed one of the best-loved of British tenors. His sterling service as Siegfried and Siegmund in the great English National Opera cycles of Wagner's Ring in the early 1970s endeared him to British opera audiences, and his Italianate lyricism, allied to a herculean strength, made his a particularly listenable sort of "heldentenor". Now he is 60, and celebrates with a recital of everything from Handel to Wagner. Another ENO veteran, Victor Morris, accompanies. **St John's**, Smith Square, London SW1 (0171-222 1061). Sun, 7.30pm



A French dentist showing a specimen of his artificial teeth and false palates from The Rumbustious World of Thomas Rowlandson

OPERA

Rodney Milnes

THE CUNNING LITTLE VIXEN: Janáček's pantheistic hymn of praise to the natural world makes a welcome return to the ENO repertory in the classic David Pountney



Lesley Garrett: resourceful

production which, like the opera itself, has everything: broad comedy fitting to its source as a newspaper strip-cartoon — it's an ideal first opera for children — and a sense of wonder at nature's powers of self-renewal. Maria Bjornson's sets and costumes are as beautiful as they are witty, and the cast is led by the ENO's very own prima donna, Lesley Garrett, as the resourceful fox-lady of the title. Stephen Barlow conducts. **Coliseum**, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (0171-836 3161), tonight, Thurs 2, 7.30pm.

DER ROSENKAVALIER: Last chance to catch the Royal Opera's luscious revival of Strauss's comedy of bedroom manners — Viennese hot chocolate, but dark in hue and with a sharp tang to it. The conductor Andrew Davis ensures there's plenty of whipped cream on top to help to ease it down, and there's a first-class cast: Anna Tomowa-Sintow in one of her all-too-rare appearances here as the Marschallin, Ann Murray as Octavian, and the enormously experienced Kurt Moll as fall-guy Ochs — plus Barbara Bonney, the steadfast Sophie throughout the run. **Royal Opera House**, Bow St, London WC2 (0171-304 4000), Mon 27, Wed 1, Fri 3, 6.30pm.

GALLERIES

Richard Cork

COX AND GABO: An enjoyable and unexpected double bill at Leeds, where Stephen Cox's sculpture is twinned with the carvings of Naum Gabo. Cox occupies the Henry Moore Institute, where his show begins with some seldom-displayed plasterboard reliefs from the 1970s. Their minimal austerity holds up well, and contrasts dramatically with the richness of the recent carvings. The most commanding is Interior Space, a great chamber ideally suited to its display in the grandest white room at the institute. Hewn from an Egyptian quarry once used by the Pharoahs, it challenges the visitor to squeeze through the narrow entrance slit and explore the darkness within. Gabo's show, across the bridge in Leeds City Art Gallery, is more modest in size but equally illuminating. Though best-known for his pioneering use of new materials such as perspex, the great Russian innovator also made a number of stone carvings. Sometimes they are combined with brass or nylon, but the overall mood of the show is dominated by Gabo's love of sandstone, slate, marble and alabaster. He comes close to the concern of Moore and Hepworth, whom he befriended during his period in England between 1936 and 1946. A quiet revelation. **Henry Moore Institute and Leeds City Art Gallery** (0113 246 9469) until May 6.

CARAVAGGIO REVEALED: The most exciting old master discovery of recent years has arrived at the National Gallery. Caravaggio's *The Taking Of Christ*, for decades unrecognised in a Dublin Jesuit community house, was detected by the restorer Sergio Benedetti. Now lent to London by the National Gallery of Ireland, it shows the artist at his most darkly dramatic. Christ's seizure by the soldiers is conveyed as arrestingly as Judas's kiss, pressed against the cheek of man who recoils in rigidly controlled anguish. Three other Caravaggio paintings flesh out an unmissable mini-exhibition. **National Gallery**, Trafalgar Square, London WC2 (0171-839 3321) until March 26.

ROCK

David Sinclair

THE ARTIST FORMERLY KNOWN AS PRINCE: Like George Michael, TAFKAP has become embroiled in a bitter dispute with his record company. But whereas Michael has withdrawn his labour, TAFKAP has flooded his label with recordings, vowing to stay on tour until it releases his latest album, *The Gold Experience*. At his new dates, TAFKAP will show his latest toy, a device called an endorphine-machine, said to "represent" male and female genitalia. A nation holds its breath. **Wembley Arena**, London (0181-900 1234), March 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 21, 22; **G-Mex**, Manchester (0161-832 9000), March 10, 11; **SECC**, Glasgow (0141-248 9999), March 13, 14; **Sheffield Arena** (0742 565656), March 16, 17; **NEC**, Birmingham (021-780 4133), March 18, 19; **Point Depot**, Dublin (010353 1 363633), March 29, 30.



TAFKAP: prince of protest

FAITH NO MORE: To tie in with the release on March 13 of a new album, *King For A Day... Fool For A Lifetime*, alternative-metal headcases Faith No More from San Francisco undertake a series of "low-key" music shows, although one would hesitate to apply such a term to their hyperactively heavyweight music. Led by the evergenial vocalist Mike Patton ("Sometimes a good way to make music is to treat it like revenge"), the band leavens its bullet-hard riffs with touches of funk, country and jazz. **Pyramid Centre**, Portsmouth (01705 826666), March 2; **Roadmender**, Northampton (01604 21405), March 4; **UEA**, Norwich (01603 505401), March 5; **Garage**, Glasgow (0141-332 1120), March 10; **Manchester University** (0161-275 2930), March 11; **Forum**, London NW5 (0171-284 2200), March 13.

THEATRE

Benedict Nightingale

BROKEN GLASS: A deserved transfer from the National for Arthur Miller's latest, with Henry Goodman at his most emotionally incisive as a New York Jew trying to sustain hope and self-respect in a world invaded by news of Nazi atrocities in 1930s Germany. **Duke of York's**, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-836 5122). Evenings, Mon to Sat at 7.45pm; matinées, Wed and Sat at 3pm.

THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR: Is Ford, the merchant who suspects his wife is being bedded by Falstaff, an Othello whose tale ends happily? Terry Hands does not quite succeed in proving that; but, with Denis Quilley as a notably genial fat knight, his is a warm, intelligent production of Shakespeare's most underrated comedy. **Olivier, National Theatre**, South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Evenings, Mon February 27 to Sat March 4 at 7.15pm; matinées, Thurs March 2 and Sat March 4 at 2pm. Continues in repertoire.

FILMS

Geoff Brown

NATURAL BORN KILLERS (18): Duck for cover: Oliver Stone is back with his most ferocious assault yet on the audience's eyes and ears. Our brains are only partly involved in this tale of two warped souls who go on a killing spree, and are turned into celebrities by tabloid TV. Stone satirises the media (an easy target) with an iron fist; though you must admire the cheek of someone who takes big Hollywood money and produces a visual bombardment unprecedented in a mainstream film. The actors have much to compete with, but in the midst of the frenzy Woody Harrelson and Juliette Lewis manage intense performances as the demon lovers who notch up 52 corpses, or thereabouts, in a few crazy weeks. **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Gate** (0171-727 4043) **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332).

QUIZ SHOW (15): Robert Redford, wearing his director's cap, resurrects an episode in 1950s America, when the TV quiz show *Twenty One* was rocked by scandal. A disgruntled Jew (John Turturro) takes revenge on the monied, handsome WASP (Ralph Fiennes) who replaces him as champion. Redford is fighting a battle already lost when he bemoans the ascent of TV culture, but his elegy for civilised values is sustained by an amusing script and a raft of brilliant performances. A pleasure to see Paul Scofield on screen again as Fiennes's father, the literary luminary Mark Van Doren. **Barbican** (0171-638 8891) **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353) **Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Screen/Hill** (0171-435 3366) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

DANCE

John Percival

BEJART BALLET: Guest stars Sylvie Guillem and Laurent Hilaire feature in the opening gala (next Tuesday) of Maurice Bejart's brief London season. They dance *Episodes*, a dramatic piece he made especially for them. Also, that night only, is *Suite Viennoise*, plus the London premiere of *Journal: First Chapter*. This last recurs on a Stravinksy programme (March 2 and 4) with one of Bejart's most celebrated works, *Firebird*, and the *Three Pieces for Violin*. Bejart calls the programme on Wednesday 1 and Friday 3 The Art of Pas de Deux: an assemblage of dramatic duets. **Sadler's Wells Theatre**, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (0171-278 8916), 7.30pm.

CLASSICS RESTAGED: Two company directors present their interpretations of famous old works. Scottish Ballet premiers Galina Samsova's version of *Swan Lake* in Glasgow on Thursday 2 (followed by a tour to Edinburgh, Woking, Inverness, Aberdeen, Newcastle, Hull and Belfast). Peter Wright's new production of *Coppelia* for Birmingham Royal Ballet previews on Thursday, opens on Friday 3, and will go later to Bradford, Sunderland, Liverpool and Covent Garden. **Theatre Royal**, Hope Street, Glasgow (0141-332 9000), March 2-18 except Sundays, 7.15pm, matinées Sat at 2.15 and Thur 9, 16, 1.30pm. **Birmingham Hippodrome**, Hurst Street, Birmingham (0121-622 7486) March 2-4 and 6-8 at 7.30, matinées Sat at 2.30, Tues at 2pm.

CHILDREN

LONDON

Tropical tales: Lively Afro-Caribbean tales from the Cassava Leaf Storytellers. *London Transport Museum, Covent Garden, WC2 (0171-379 6344). Today 11am. Adults £3.95 (incl. museum admission); over-fives £2.50, under-fives free. Family ticket £10.*

Spring Stamper: The British Philatelic Exhibition. *Royal Horticultural Halls, Greycoat Street and Vincent Square, SW1 (0171-490 1005). Starts Tues, noon-7pm, and continues until March 5. Adults and children £3 (first day); subsequent days adults £1.50, children 75p.*

BEDFORDSHIRE

How to recycle: Environmentalists show how to re-use things. *Visitor Centre, Priory Country Park, Bedford (01234 364213). Tomorrow at 2.30pm. Children 50p.*

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Wood walking: Learn about a wood through the centuries on this nature walk. For eight-year-olds upwards accompanied by adults. *Brampton Wood, near Grafham (01480 812660). Today at 10am (ends noon), free. No disabled facilities.*

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Attract birds to your garden: Royal Society for the Protection of Birds workshop. For four-year-olds upwards accompanied by adults. *Meet at the RSPB Highnam Woods reserve car park near Gloucester (01594 562852). Free.*

HAMPSHIRE

Fair Play is the title of Martin the Puppet Man's show. *The Tower, Romsey Road, Winchester (01962 867986). Tomorrow, 2pm. Adults £4, children £3. Family of four £12.*

ISLE OF WIGHT

Wax facts: The Romans, Henry VIII and the Chamber of Horrors are some of the attractions at the Wax Museum at Brading. *High Street, Brading (01983 407286). Open daily from 10am-5pm. Adults £2.75, children £4.25. Limited facilities for the disabled.*

OXFORDSHIRE

They Are Back: Television's Borrowers on stage with the SNAP Theatre Company. For five-year-olds upwards. *The Theatre, Chipping Norton (01608 642350). Starts Monday at 6pm, ends Tues (1pm and 6pm). Adults and children from £4.50.*

SCOTLAND

History of shipbuilding: *Maritime Museum, Aberdeen (01224 585788). Mon-Sat 10am-4pm, free.*

WALES

Taking up Judo? Then get some inspiration from spectating at the Judo Welsh Youth Open championships. *Welsh Institute of Sport, Sophia Gardens, Cardiff (01222 397571). Today at 10am. Adults £2, children £1.*

WARWICKSHIRE

Return to the Forbidden Planet: Shakespeare set to rock 'n' roll — the 1995 tour starts this weekend. *Royal Shakespeare Theatre, Waterside, Stratford (01789 295623), today at 2.30pm and 7.30pm. Adults and children from £8.*

YORKSHIRE

Enter a Children's Poetry Competition at the "Railways in Literature" exhibition, showing how trains feature in classics such as *Wind in the Willows*. *National Railway Museum, York (01904 621261). Today 10am-6pm and tomorrow 11am-6pm. Continues to April 25. Adults £4.20, under-fives free, over-fives £2.10.*



On line for children

JANE BIDDER

In Chipping Campden, **Ruth Gledhill** attends a charismatic Baptish church

AT YOUR SERVICE

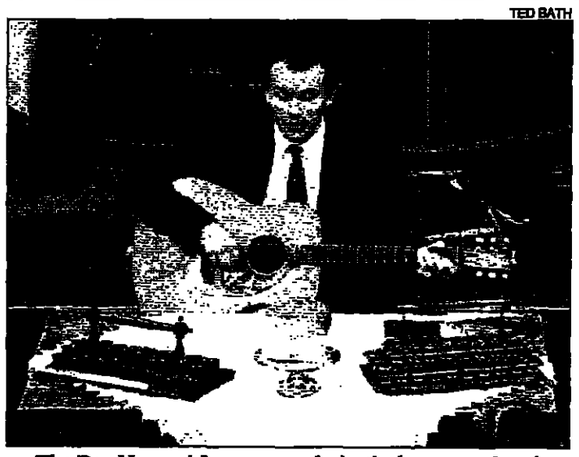


WHEN a minister can not only save a near-empty church from closure, filling it with young couples, teenagers and children, but can also persuade these same middle-England churchgoers to rock to gospel songs and "speak in tongues", it suggests there might be hope for Christianity in Britain yet.

About 15 years ago, Chipping Campden Baptist church, an unremarkable building in the heart of a remarkably pretty town, was on the brink of closure. A handful of older members, however, refused to accept the inevitable, and prayed almost continuously for the church to be saved. Gradually, young families moved into the area and began attending church, and Howard Jones, a student at Regent's College, Oxford, began to preach and lead services there.

Two neighbouring chapels at Blockley and Paxford closed and were sold. The money was given to Chipping Campden, which enabled the congregation to invite Mr Jones to become their full-time minister. The church is now one of Britain's fastest-growing Baptist chapels.

I arrived early but the only pew left was at the back, where I sat with the few others aged 35 or more. "We are here to praise God, worship him and give our hearts to him afresh," said Mr Jones, a lively minister in his mid-thirties, who was formerly a member of a Christian rock band. His simultaneous fluency with the guitar, sermon and liturgy made him seem at times the ecclesiastical equivalent of a one-man band, although others did take turns to lead parts of the service, in particular the prayers.



TED BATH

The Rev Howard Jones: an ecclesiastical one-man band

"Lord, it is not because of our wisdom or wonderful way of living that we are here," said Mr Jones. "It is not because we are specially good. It is because you loved us and gave us your son. Lord, you have loved us. You still do love us with such a passion."

We sang "happy birthday" to three members of the congregation, including the minister's wife Iona, before Mr Jones introduced us to the song: "You are love, you are life, you are Lord of everything." We prayed for the five church members on missionary projects in England and abroad, for the Government, for peace in Northern Ireland and for the game of football.

After communion, when he broke a large loaf of bread into small pieces for us to share, Mr Jones preached on St Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, when the apostle said it was preferable to speak five intelligible words to instruct others than 10,000 words "in tongue". Speaking in tongues, technically known as *glossolalia*, is considered the least of the "gifts of the spirit" listed by Paul in Corinthians, which also include preaching, healing and wisdom. But there was still a place for it, Mr Jones said. The purpose of this gift was to allow "the spirit to pray while the mind lies fallow... when we speak in tongues the spirit is speaking with God direct, bypassing the mind."

He held up a £5 note — a basket had been passed round to raise funds for him to buy a manse when he moves soon to his next church in Birmingham. Such gifts should be accepted, he said, as should that of speaking in tongues: "Like Paul, I would like every one of you to be able to do this." After the service we could go for coffee, leave, or go up to the front and receive the gift of speaking in tongues.

I have heard *glossolalia* in other charismatic churches. It comes across as a kind of incoherent, high-pitched babbling noise. Deciding that it would be preferable to engage my mind before attempting to talk to God, that my life was overflowing with gifts already, and that in any case it was difficult enough to make sense in English, I babbled a few incoherent excuses and left.

Chipping Campden Baptist Church, Market Place, Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire. 01386 840720

PASTOR: The Rev Howard Jones

SERMON: Gifted interpretation of some of St Paul's less comprehensible statements. ★★★★

ARCHITECTURE: Built in 1872, an artless protestation of plainness against the well-managed beauty of the town. Small building with gallery, easily filled by the congregation of 80-plus. ★★

MUSIC: One traditional hymn, then some lively Christian worship songs. ★★★

LITURGY: Words for communion celebration taken direct from Corinthians; otherwise service ad-libbed around structure of songs, prayers, with the sermon at the end. ★

AFTER-SERVICE CARE: All who wanted to receive the "gift of the spirit" and start speaking in tongues were invited to be prayed over. Others could partake of tea or coffee. ★★★

SPIRITUAL HIGH: My spirit refused obdurately to receive the proffered gift of tongues. ★

Continued from page 1

been said that between 500 and 1,000 garden plants are lost each year."

As the number of Mr Harwood's daffodils increased, it became obvious that there was insufficient room in his garden, so an acre of ground was found a few miles away, on an old nursery garden, where the collection could expand unhindered.

At home it had never been ideal having most of the garden given over to daffodils. Mr Harwood explains that he likes to leave the daffodil leaves to die down for at least six weeks after flowering, to build up the bulbs for next season, and that it had not made the most exciting of views from the kitchen window. "Some daffodils — the jonquil and tazetta types — want a summer baking, but the trumpet types like it cool and moist, so we used to plant courgettes over them when the leaves had gone, to provide shade. We had a *lot* of courgettes."

He took to breeding daffodils, making his own crosses from promising parents and then patiently waiting for five years — from seed to first flower — before he could see the results.

Today his sons are beginning to catch the bug. They enjoy helping to hand-pollinate the flowers for the breeding programme, and willingly travel to shows where Mr Harwood is judging, and not just because the tea ladies always ply them with dozens of sticky cakes. The elder boy is developing an eye for a daffodil and can tell a promising one from the rubbish: "I wouldn't breed from a female like that," he said thoughtfully, looking at a new hybrid.

The boys' interest pleases Mr Harwood, although he ruefully points out that both their birthdays come close together in the busy season, March and May. Mr Harwood reckons he was spending 40 hours a week on his daffodils at the peak times of year. Between September and November he was busy planting, lifting and dividing bulbs. From March to May, the flowering season, he was hand-pollinating his plants, showing and judging, and travelling around the country to see possible new additions to the collection.

He began before breakfast, was outdoors all evening and most of the weekend. At the quiet times of year, the work reduced to perhaps 20 hours a week: researching varieties, keeping his records up to date, and answering volumes of daffodil correspondence. Holidays were to places such as the Isles of Scilly, where he could do a bit of out-of-season bulb hunting.

us100 For him, 1991 was a bad year. It was time to be lifting and sorting the bulbs. (He does this on a four-year rotation, rather than all in one year, as the collection contains in the region of 100,000 individual bulbs.) One thousand, three hundred varieties were standing dry in the garden shed ready to be split, replanted or treated for pests. Then, while Mr Harwood was waiting in a traffic queue on a motorway, another car sailed into the back of his car, wrecking it and fracturing his spine.

As a result of his accident he has been pensioned off and is now a full-time daffodil man, still far from comfortable after the accident, but able to continue, and keen as ever. For three years, work on the house has halted; it is habitable but far from finished. Progress with the daffodils has been better, and he has managed to replace two-thirds of the varieties which perished in the shed.

He has to kneel to plant now, which is a big frustration. "I spend my life telling people to plant their daffodils deeper, down to a foot at least, so they go on flowering after the first couple of years, and now I am finding it difficult to put them deep myself."

Bulbs are everywhere in the garden. The greenhouse is knee-deep in bulbs waiting to be planted, and the walls are racked with trays of miniature varieties such as the hoop-petticoat *Narcissus bulbocodium* and pots of fragrant 'Paper White', hurriedly lifted in to escape an overnight frost. When you open the door the perfume hits you like steam from a pressure cooker.

Under the kitchen window are beds of recent acquisitions, which Mr Harwood was able to manage while convalescing. But what's this? Something other than daffodils and courgettes? I spot some drumheaded alliums and several species of hellebore. The beginnings of some new collections perhaps? "Well I shall certainly be starting to breed alliums, and tulips, too," Mr Harwood said. "But the daffodils won't suffer. I'll do both."

Mrs Harwood works at the local playgroup, and, Mr Harwood insists, is a willing partner in his daffodil-driven life. It could hardly be otherwise. But the Greek myth of Narcissus provides a cautionary lesson: it was punishment for scorning the love of a maiden which caused the sweet youth Narcissus to develop the hots for his own reflection and to die of frustration. Thereafter, for mythological reasons, he was turned into a daffodil. Some bulb.

Mr Harwood does not care to pay more than £5 for a new bulb. The newest, most desirable varieties can fetch anything from £25 to £75 a bulb from specialist nurseries, but after a few years they come down to sane prices, and then disappear — from the nurseries at least. Naturally, no nurseryman is going to waste time on a field of bulbs worth £5 each when he could be getting £75. And so the varieties come and go.

Mr Harwood waves a well-used paperback several inches thick, the Royal Horticultural Society's Daffodil Register. "There are 25,000 names in here, and 300 new ones are registered every year," he says. The viscera stir at the thought of the British Isles disappearing under a custard of mounting yellow, and Wordsworth becoming a dirty word among the conservation lobby.

How much does he spend on bulbs a year? He hedges. "Well, it depends how much there is to spare that year." It is clearly a significant sum: running a collection as seriously as this must cost a few thousand a year, not counting time, but including office expenses, telephone calls, daily travel to the nursery ground, trips to track down plants and to specialist libraries: pots, labels, recording systems, pest control (including feeding the cat which consumes the mice and rabbits), and finally the bulbs themselves. National Collection holders, it must be said, do it for love.

Anyone can be a collection holder. And anyone can have a collection of any flowering plant. Most collections are far smaller than Mr Harwood's and the demands on space and money correspondingly smaller. What is needed is a passion for the plant. Not even a passion for gardening: simply a passion for one plant and the urge to collect it in all its various forms. This done, the collection can be registered with the National Council for the Conservation of Plants and Gardens at Wisley, Surrey, once it has been approved by the NCCPG's committee of eminent horticulturists.

In Northumberland, Ray Stephenson, a teacher, has the National Collection of Sedum (stonecrops) in a thousand and one pots in his back yard. The Prince of Wales, the NCCPG's patron, has 57 cultivars of beech tree at Highgrove in Gloucestershire. The National Thyme Collection is held by Kevin and Susie White at their nursery in Hexham, Northumberland, and they, like a growing number of collection holders, have published definitive literature on their pet subject, through the NCCPG.

Some collection holders specialise in the wild species only. They aim to grow all those that will survive in our climate, and it is a great service they do for the international conservation movement, not just for Britain. There are plants today which are extinct in their natural habitat but which still exist in British gardens. *Cosmos atrosanguineus* is one; that maroon, chocolate-scented dahlia lookalike which is so fashionable at the moment.

Collecting man-made ornamental hybrids is another matter altogether. By comparison, it is almost a dilettante occupation. It receives none of the kudos that goes with nature conservation. It has no moral worthiness. Even the hybridisation of food crops has been for profitability or disease-resistance, but the hybridisation of garden plants has only ever been for sheer pleasure.

Collecting hybrids preserves a wonderful working palette of plants for gardeners. It is art history at its sharpest end. From a collection like Mr Harwood's you can look back at, say, early 19th-century daffodils, just as you would a swatch of wallpapers or old fabrics, choosing plants which appeal for their own sake or to recreate a period garden.

You can see in his collection the 18th-century double daffodils such as 'Lemon Phoenix', or the modern hybrids coming out of Holland today, with flowers the size of your hand on short stems. You can smell the truly rose-like perfume from the new flowers of *Narcissus* 'Sweet Charity', or stand amazed at the new split-corona daffodils, whose trumpet is split backwards against the petals to form a glamorous, very un-daffodil-like face.

And if there are too many to choose from, Mr Harwood is always there when his collection has an Open Weekend, to pass on his advice and enthusiasm. He despairs at the lack of choice offered by garden centres and even bulb merchants. "All 'Carlton' and 'Ice Follies' by the sack," he says. "Look at 'Dallas' or 'Cushendall'. There's style for you: perfect white on white, the shallowest of cups, and a *green eye*. The greens are definitely coming in. A judge at one of the shows begged some 'Dallas' from me last year and it broke my heart to agree." But he did.

As a collection holder he does grow those varieties he hates. "But only five each of those, mind you. I might have hundreds of my favourites, like 'Cloud Nine'. It really glows, even from a distance."

His queen of daffs is the variety 'Avalanche'. There is a great block of them by his back door, where he can get the full benefit of the perfume, and the bulbs can get the necessary summer baking. It is tall, with 14 white, yellow-centred flowers on each stem, and the perfume is ravishing.

The future of his collection? "Well, I have daffodils in flower from December under glass to June outdoors. But I can buy bulbs from New Zealand to plant in March and get into flower for July and August. Their internal clock takes a season to re-adjust to this hemisphere. I also keep back in cold storage some of my own bulbs, which I pot up later to target specific summer shows."

There are always old varieties waiting around the corner to be collected. A few years ago he came across a nursery which used to specialise in new daffodils in the 1930s. "All gone now, Guv," he was told, "but there's a few left in the hedge bottoms." The field had been grubbed up but, at the end of every row, many plants had survived, flowering deep among the hedge roots.

Mr Harwood does not worry about what will happen to the collection in, say, 30 years. He is too busy expanding it. The saving of collections, the passing on of the baton, is a job which the NCCPG sees as one of its more important duties. The organisation refers to itself with the ghastly phrase "networked living germplasm repository". It sounds like something you might see written on an Organ Donor Card. But that is its role: to step in where there is an emergency, and to help tom coordinate the committal to safe hands of a great collection.

There are more than 600 National Collections in Britain, and the work put into them is tremendous. But saving the plants is almost the easy part. Keeping them permanently saved is another matter. Who else would step in to give his life to daffodils, and enjoy every minute of it? What public institution would wish to afford it? Where do you find that kind of commitment?

Buy a daffodil on St David's Day, next Wednesday, and think of Martin Harwood. Just be careful when you bend to sniff the perfume that it is not the beginning of something much, much bigger.

Gardening, page 9

Cover illustration: MARY EVANS PICTURE LIBRARY

Feature photographs: MITCH JENKINS



'Atlas Gold'

Fact file

- Martin Harwood's narcissi list can be obtained by writing to him (enclosing an SAE) at: Hope Cottage, Halebourne Lane, Chobham, Surrey, GU24 8SL.
- Copies of *The National Plant Collections Directory 1995* are available from the NCCPG, The Pines, Wisley Garden, Woking, Surrey GU23 6QB (£3.50, including p&p).
- Information about the Daffodil Society is available from The Secretary (Don Barnes), 32 Montgomery Avenue, Sheffield S7 1NZ.
- *Thyme in the Garden* is available from Hexham Herbs, Chesters Walled Garden, Chollerford, Hexham, Northumberland (£2.50, including p&p).
- Ray Stephenson's new monograph *Sedum* by the Timber Press is available through bookshops (£37.50).



Martin Harwood and his nine-year-old son, Graeme, check some of the many hundreds of daffodil varieties at their home



'Constantinople'



'The Usurper'

Patricia Morison on the painter Poussin, Ovid and the inspiration behind Flora's garden

A living picture garden

FOR THE essence of spring in the garden, go to Piccadilly in the very centre of London. *The Kingdom of Flora* is a ravishingly beautiful painting in the Royal Academy's exhibition, "Nicholas Poussin". The goddess Flora dances in a robe the colour of young beech-leaves. Apollo drives his sun-chariot across the sky. A statue of Priapus, the phallic god of gardens, stands beside garlanded trees.

What, I wondered, would it take to *plant* a kingdom of Flora — possibly minus Priapus, who might alarm the neighbours.

At first it seemed easy. Poussin has painted all the characters transformed into flowers in the *Metamorphosis*, the celebrated poem by the first-century Roman poet Ovid. Beautiful Narcissus is shown gazing at his reflection. In his hand is the flower he became after he died of self-love. So in my garden of Flora, I would plant *Narcissus tazetta*, white with a yellow centre, just as Ovid described.

Then the problems begin. Do I want my garden true to Ovid, or true to Poussin? Take the carnation springing from the blood of Ajax who fell on his sword in a fit of rage. Now, Ovid tells his readers that Ajax was turned into the same flower as the dead Hyacinth. On a hyacinth's petals are inscribed the words AI AI, explained Ovid. It represented Apollo's cry of grief as he tried to revive his lover, Hyacinth, whom he had slain in a discus accident, and the letters are also the first of Ajax's name.

Why did Poussin fail to be true to Ovid in this?

Even choosing the correct hyacinth is not straightforward. Poussin shows blue flowers which could be bluebells, or a cultivated form of *Hyacinth orientalis*, bred by the Ottoman Turks. But that is not what Ovid meant by his bright purple bloom shaped like a lily and marked AI. Classical scholars have many suggestions for the Ovidian hyacinth, such as asphodel, iris, *Gladiolius, italicus*, wild larkspur, and *Lilium chalcedonicum*.

For Ovid, the fragile wild anemone was the flower sacred to Adonis, Venus's lover who was gored by a boar. Poussin shows them as mauve, whereas I would prefer blood-red *Anemone coronaria* in my garden. Crocus is easy, he wears a wreath of blue and white crocuses in the picture but his languorous girlfriend, Smilax, is a real problem. Poussin shows her holding greater bindweed, which only a lunatic would turn loose in a garden.

Fortunately, I have another choice, especially as Ovid tells us nothing more about the lovers except that they were turned into "tiny flowers". *Smilax* is indeed classical Latin for bindweed, as well as oak and pine. However, Ovid could also have meant *Smilax aspera*, a fragrant climber which the ancients used in funeral wreaths. So long as I had a greenhouse, that would be my choice for *Smilax*.

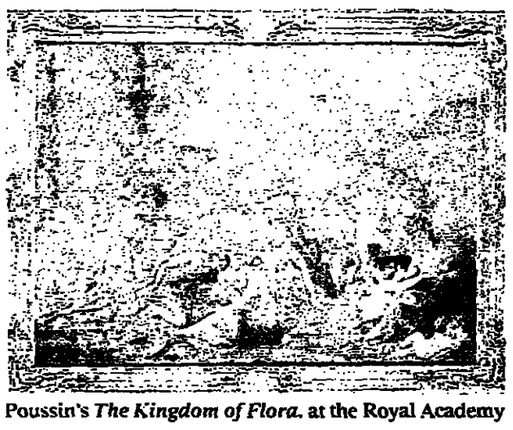
What does the nymph Clytie have in her basket? The exhibition label tells us they are sunflowers, but gardeners will disagree. They are smaller than sunflowers and their petals and centres are orange. They don't resemble the huge, coarse sunflower in Van Dyck's self-portrait of 1633. *Helianthus annuus* was brought from America to Spain in 1509 and spread slowly into upmarket gardens. Poussin surely would not have risked making his botanically aware patrons snigger by including a New World exotic in his supposedly Roman garden.

The plot thickens if we ask what Ovid meant. He made up the story about Clytie, driven mad with desire for Apollo and turned into a plant, which he never names, though he describes pale leaves, violet petals, and a habit of turning towards the sun. Later Roman writers assumed Ovid meant heliotrope but, what did they mean by heliotrope? They did not mean our annual heliotrope or "Cherry Pie", discovered in Peru in the 18th century. It seems that for my Ovidian garden, I could plant violets, wild mallow, wild chicory or *Heliotropium europaeum*, a small-flowered, lilac-white creeping annual.

According to my theory, Poussin duly filled Clytie's basket with another flower famous in Renaissance literature for "following the sun": the humble pot marigold.

I find myself disagreeing again with the art historians when they say that Flora's people have the melancholy look of dying mortals. Poussin knew well the perils of love, say scholars, who claim he painted this picture after recovering from syphilis. But in *The Kingdom of Flora* he captures the very essence of spring — joy and sensuality. It is a wonderfully happy picture.

● *"Nicholas Poussin" is at the Royal Academy, Piccadilly, London W1 until April 9 (0171 439 7438). The catalogue, published by the Royal Academy with Zwemmer, costs £21.50 (£39.50 in hardback).*



Poussin's *The Kingdom of Flora*, at the Royal Academy



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Sat 25 Feb 7.30 — **CITY OF BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCH** The 40's: War & Peace. Sir Simon Rattle (cond) P Crossley (pno). Stravinsky Orpheus, Messiaen Trois petites liturgies de la Présence Divine, Bartók Conc for orch. £25, £20, £17, £14, £10, £5 *SBC/CBSO

Sun 26 Feb 3.15 — **PINCHAS ZUKERMAN plays BRUCH & BEETHOVEN** English Chamber Orch, P Ledger. Beethoven Romance in G; Mozart Sym 40; Mendelssohn Exepts (Midsummer Night's Dream); Bruch Vln Conc. £28, £24, £18.50, £15, £9.50 Victor Hochhauser

Sun 26 Feb 7.30 — **THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC** Resident at the RFH. Zubin Mehta (cond) Bryn Terfel (btone) Wagner Excpts: The Ring; Mahler Kindertotenlieder; Webern Passacaglia; Six Pieces for Orch; Conc for Nine Instruments. £30, £21, £17, £13, £8, £5 *Lon Phil

Mon 27 Feb 7.30 — **PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA** Christoph von Dohnányi (conductor) Brahms Symphony No.3; Symphony No.1 Sponsor: AT&T. £28, £22, £17, £10, £5 *Phil Ltd

Tue 28 Feb 7.30 — **ALFRED BRENDEL** International Piano Series Beethoven Sonatas in C minor, Op.10/1; in F, Op.10/2; in D, Op.10/3; in B-flat, Op.106 (Hammerklavier) £25, £20, £15, £12, £9, £6 Ingpen & Williams/*SBC

Thu 2 Mar 7.30 — **THE LONDON PHILHARMONIC** Resident at the RFH. Franz Welser-Möst. Mozart Sym No.38 (Prague); Bartók Suite, The Miraculous Mandarin; Tchaikovsky Sym 6 (Pathétique) Sponsor: Touche Ross & Co. £30, £21, £17, £13, £8, £5 *Lon Phil

Fri 3 Mar 7.30 — **CITY OF BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA** The 40's: War & Peace. Sir Simon Rattle (cond) Pavel Haas Study for Strings; Schoenberg A Survivor from Warsaw; Tippett A Child of our Time. £25, £20, £17, £14, £10, £5 *SBC/CBSO

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Tue 28 Feb 7.45 — **PIANO CONCERTO FESTIVAL GERMAN ROMANTICS** Lond Soloists Ch Orch, Josefowitz, A Shorr, F M Ormezowski. Mendelssohn Ov, Hebrides; Brahms Pno Conc No.1; Schumann Cello Conc; Schubert Sym No.8 (Unfinished) £14, £12, £9, £7LSCO

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Ov. *Bartered Bride*, Matadors' Chorus *La Traviata*, Vissi d'arte, E lucevan le stelle *Tosca*, Birdcatcher's song *Magic Flute*, On with the motley *I Pagliacci*, Barcarolle *Tales of Hoffmann*, Toreador's Song *Carmen*, Verdi Celeste Aida, Ritorna vincitor, Grand March *Aida*, Wagner Prelude Act 3 *Lohengrin*, Largo al factotum *Barber of Seville*, One fine day, Humming Chorus *Madama Butterfly*, Pearlfishers Duet, Intermezzo *Cavalleria Rusticana*, O patria oppressa *Macbeth*, IN QUESTA REGGIA, NESSUN DORMA & FINAL SCENE *Turandot*

SUNDAY 26 MARCH at 7.30pm

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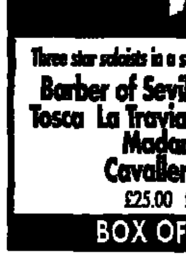
National Symphony Orchestra Cond *David Coleman* Tenor *Bruce Rankin* Pro Musica Chorus of London

Glinka Ov. *Ruslan & Ludmilla*, Orff O Fortuna *Carmina Burana*, Vaughan Williams Greensleeves, Verdi La donna e mobile *Rigoletto*, Elgar Pomp & Circumstance March No.1, Wagner Bridal Chorus *Lohengrin*, Coronation March *Le Prophete*, Puccini Che gelida manina *La Boheme*, Polovtsian Dances *Prince Igor*, Wagner Ride of the Valkyries, Handel Hallelujah Chorus *Messiah*, Flower Song *Carmen*, Sousa Liberty Bell, Verdi Va Pensiero *Nabucco*, Strauss Radetzky March, Verdi Anvil Chorus *Il Trovatore*, Puccini Nessun dorma *Turandot*, Ravel Bolero

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Eine kleine Nachtmusik
Piano Concerto No.21, K.467
Symphony No.41 (Jupiter)
ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA
IAN WATSON piano/director
£9.50, £13.50, £16.50, £18.50, £21

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0171-638 8891 9AM–8PM DAILY

Ton't 25 Feb 8.00pm — **THE GLORY OF MOZART** English Chamber Orchestra, Ian Watson piano/dir. Mozart Ov. *The Marriage of Figaro*; Eine kleine Nachtmusik; Piano Concerto No.21, Symphony No.41 in E flat, Jupiter £21 £18.50 £16.50 £13.50 £9.50 *Raymond Gubbay Ltd*

Tomor 26 Feb 7.30pm — **TIPPETT: THE MASK OF TIME** Visions of Paradise London Symphony Orchestra, Sir Colin Davis cond., Faye Robinson, Maria Popescu, Thomas Randle, Stephen Richardson soloists London Symphony Chorus £6 £10 £14 £16.50 £22 £30 *LSO Ltd*

Tues 28 Feb 7.30pm — **HAYDN IN LONDON** English Chamber Orchestra, Raymond Leppard cond., Imogen Cooper piano. Mozart Symphony No.34 in C, K338; Piano Concerto in B flat, K450 Haydn Ov. *Windsor Castle*; Symphony No.104 in D, *London* £19 £15 £10 £6 *ECOMS* *SUPPORTED BY THE FOUNDATION FOR SPORT AND THE ARTS*

Thur 2 Mar 7.30pm — **PIERRE BOULEZ 70TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION** London Symphony Orchestra, Pierre Boulez cond., Kyung-Wha Chung violin. Boulez Figures, Doubles, Prismes Ravel *Le Tombeau de Couperin* Bartók Violin Concerto No.2 £6 £10 £14 £16.50 £22 £30 *LSO Ltd.*

Fri 3 Mar 7.30pm — **ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA** Britain at its Best Yehudi Menuhin cond., Ida Haendel violin. Elgar *In the South* (Alassio) Britten Violin Concerto Vaughan Williams Symphony No.5 £27 £21 £16 £10 £5 *RPO Ltd.* *SPONSORED BY INDEPENDENT INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED*

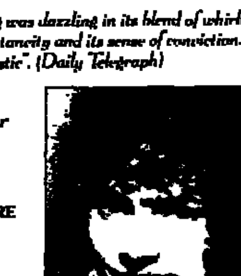
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Ravel *Le Tombeau de Couperin;*
Bartok *Violin Concerto No.2*

Kyung Wha Chung *violin*

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WIGMORE HALL
36 Wigmore Street London W1H 0BP — Box Office 0171 935 2141 — LONDON

Saturday 25 Feb 7.30 pm — P Graffin violin; F Preslo trumpet; P Silverthorne viola; T Merk cello; D Mcu double bass; C Ivaldi, K Stott, F Chiu, J Menuhin pianos, Magnard: Violin Sonata; Lavignac: Grand Galop for 8 hands Franck: Cello Sonata; Saint-Saëns: Septet for piano, trumpet, string quartet & double bass Op.65 £12, £10, £8, £6 — Yaelle Festival

Sunday 26 Feb 11.30 am NB: starting time — MIRIAM FRIED violin; ALAN MARKS piano. Schubert: Sonatina in D D384; Beethoven: Sonata in A minor Op.23 Schumann: 3 Romances Op.94; Smetana: From the Homeland £7 including programme and coffee/sherry/juice — Coffee Concert, Wigmore Hall

Monday 27 Feb 7.30 pm — LARS ANDERS TOMTER viola, HAVARD GIMSE piano Schumann: Märchenbilder Op.113 Kvandal: Elegy/Capriccio (UK prem); Britten: Lachrymae Paganini: Sonata; Franck: Sonata £9.00, £7.50, £6.00, £4.50 — Stephannie Williams Artists

Tuesday 28 Feb 7.30 pm — THE RAPHAEL ENSEMBLE Schubert: Trio Movement in B flat D471 Korngold: String Sextet in D Op.10 Schubert: String Quintet in C D956 £11, £9, £7, £5 — Christopher Tennant Artists' Management

Thursday 2 March 7.30 pm — MARI KODAMA piano Haydn: Sonata in E flat HXVI:52 Dutilleux: Sonata (1947) Boulez: Sonata No.1 (1946); Beethoven: Eroica Variations Op.35 £10, £8, £6, £4 — Owen/White Management

Friday 3 March 7.30 pm — THOMAS ZEHETMAIR violin, TABEA ZIMMERMANN viola, HEINRICH SCHIFF cello Schubert: String Trio in B flat D471 Schoenberg: String Trio Op.45; Mozart: Divertimento in E flat K563 £14, £12, £9, £6 — Master Concert, Wigmore Hall

Saturday 4 March 5.00 pm NB: starting time — SATURDAY SCHUBERTIADE Juliet Booth sop, Jamie MacDougall tenor, Malcolm Martineau pno Songs from April to July 1816 incl. *An den Mond, An die Nachtigall, Meeres Stille, Seufzer, Wandrers Nachtlied, Der Fischer & Erster Verlust* All seats £7 — Song Recital Series, Wigmore Hall

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Nicholas Ward conductor
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Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra
Lynne Dawson soprano
Jean Rigby mezzo soprano
City of Birmingham Symphony Chorus, Andrew Litton cond
Brahms Alto Rhapsody
Mahler Symphony No.2 (Resurrection)
£7.50-£21

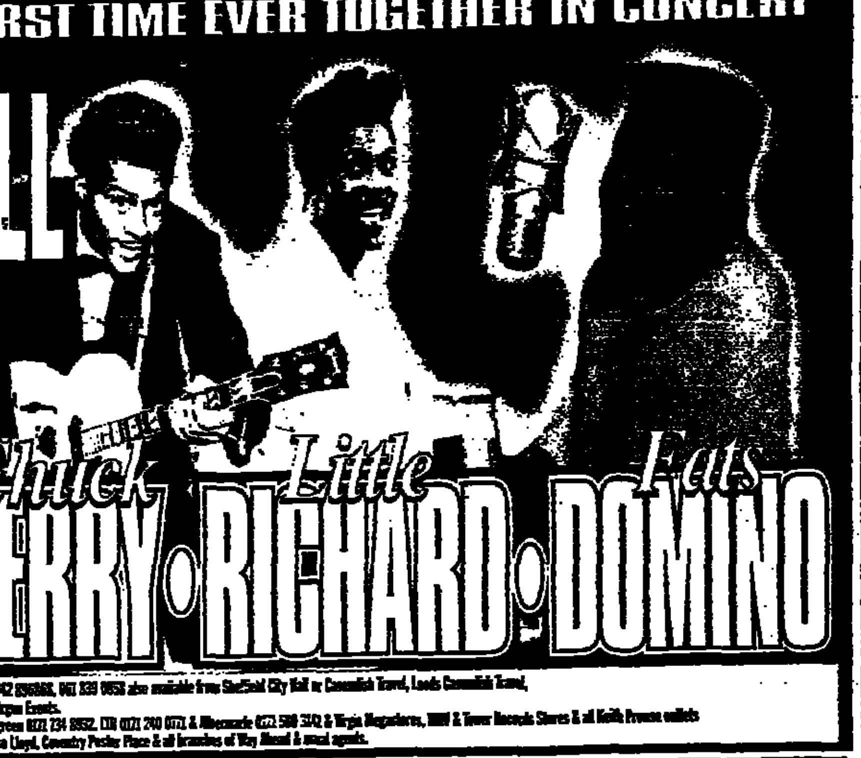
Sunday 26 March at 3pm
London Mozart Players
Howard Shelley piano
Matthias Bamert conductor
Mozart Sym No.1 K16; Piano Concerto No.21 K467; Divertimento K136; Sym No.41 (Jupiter) K551: *£6.50-£15*

Friday 31 March at 7.45pm
Bournemouth Sinfonietta
Evelyn Glennie percussion
Ieuan Jones harp
Tamas Vasary conductor
Beethoven Overture – Egmont
Delibes Suite – Le roi s'amuse
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***HAYMARKET** BO/CC 071-930 8800* 24 hr cc with fee 344 4444/ 497 9977 Evenings 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 **Dearbhla Molloy Paul Shelley** The National Theatre production of **Tom Stoppard's "MASTERPIECE"** D.Telegraph **ARCADIA** Directed by Trevor Nunn **BEST PLAY OF THE YEAR** Eve Standard Drama Award 1993 Laurence Olivier Award **OVER 350 PERFORMANCES**

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ST MARTIN'S 071 836 1443 (no bkg fee) 071 497 9977 (bkg fee) Groups 071 312 1994 (no bkg fee) Eves 8, Tues 2.45, Sat 5 & 8 43rd Year of Agatha Christie's **THE MOUSETRAP**

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هكذا من الاصل

Darling, would you be an angel?

IN THE ARTS



RICHARD MORRISON

A friend has been painfully afflicted by "I Want To Be An Actor" Syndrome — or *thespitis luvvis*, as the doctors call it. First he gave up his teaching job to follow his heart's desire. Then he spent most of his life-savings, and some of mine, on acting lessons. After that he blew the rest on a hospital operation to reshape his ears, since he was assured by those "in the biz" that Mr Tarantino and Mr Spielberg would never contemplate casting anybody whose lug'oles were less than lustrous.

Naturally I advised against this drastic assignation with the surgeon's knife. To my untutored eye the offending ears, though protruding marginally more than the norm, seemed perfectly acceptable. But when challenged to name a character in *Reservoir Dogs* or *Jurassic Park* who had distinctive ears (excluding dogs or dinosaurs, of course) I had to admit that he might have a point.

A few weeks later he came to me with a thick prospectus. "Read this," he exclaimed. His newly-restructured lobes were fair shaking with excitement, or perhaps the plastic was still drying. "It will make you rich! You'd be a mug to ignore it."

It turned out to be a document extolling the virtues of a Shakespeare production that would be staged like a Broadway musical, replete with Thirties songs and dances. It would tour to ecstatic audiences all over Britain, and then conquer the world. At least, it would if I — and several dozen other "enlightened" individuals — stumped up the necessary wherewithal (I think "shares" were fixed at £500 each) that would enable cast and director to begin rehearsals for their sure-fire hit. In short, I was being asked to become an "angel".

The document even included impressive-looking graphs and statistical analyses. To my friend, at least, these impenetrable columns of figures proved that the production was critic-proof, recession-proof and virtually certain to make us all stinking rich.

Well, call me a mug if you like, but something horribly timid and tight-fisted deep inside my psyche stopped me from handing over 500 hard-earned readies, there and then. And I never heard any more about the Shakespeare production. But a large advertisement in the national press last weekend has brought the whole episode back into my mind. It is headed "Your Chance to Play a Part in British Film History", and a curious feeling of *déjà vu* comes over me as I read it.

This time the required investment is £1,000, and instead of an all-singing Shakespeare production the project is an epic film about Scotland's warrior king, Robert the Bruce. Investors are, of course, promised "a share in any profits" — a phrase that seems unnecessarily cautious. How could there not be profits? After all, *Four Weddings and the Battle of Bannockburn* (I jest: the film will actually be called *The Bruce*) will boast such stars as Brian Blessed and Michael Van Wijk ("Wolf from TV's *Gladiators*", since you ask). Oliver Reed is also said to be "enthusiastic about the project". Momentous news indeed! And to cap it all, investors are promised "the opportunity to appear as an extra in the film" and of course "the chance to see how the film business works from the inside".

So you pay £1,000. You take unpaid leave from your job for several weeks. You run around holding a pike in a muddy field while Brian Blessed bellows "Kill the Scots rebels!" in his specially stirring voice. You let Wolf from TV's *Gladiators* charge at you on a horse, flailing with a mace as he goes. And of course you enjoy at first hand the wit and wisdom of Oliver Reed, provided that he is still enthusiastic about the project. Finally, the director says to you: "well done, loves, I wish I could pay you, but don't forget that you share in any profits."

Enticing? Well, yes, I must admit that I do find it curiously tempting. After all, £1,000 is a small price to pay for being immortalised on the same celluloid as Oliver Reed. And of course my £1,000 could make all the difference to the British film industry in its heroic struggle to compete with the Cosmers and Spielbergs.

Anyway, I am more susceptible to thespian pipe-dreams these days — ever since I discovered that my actor friend was right all along. No sooner did he start auditioning with his new, shapely ears than one of Britain's top young directors cast him in a play that has since taken him round the world. Do you think that I should have a little nip and tuck before engaging Wolf from TV's *Gladiators* in mortal combat?

Now to this week's quiz, which concerns the demure American chanteuse Madonna. The question you have to answer is: why did she turn up at the Brits Awards in Alexandra Palace this week, having snubbed them three years ago? Is it because:
a) the Brits are now the most prestigious music awards the world has ever known, and a must-attend for every superstar?
b) Madonna is a connoisseur of mid-Victorian architecture?
c) she was in north London anyway to be interviewed for the manager's job at Arsenal?
d) she has become so concerned about being perceived as a *passé* Eighties icon that she might open a carpet showroom in Romford if the local newspaper guaranteed a front-page picture?

It isn't for me to advise on the correct answer. But I did feel sorry for the figure who paraded in front of the callous "taste-makers" of the pop industry on Monday in a blonde wig apparently tailored for a kangaroo. She suddenly seemed as irrelevant as a used bus ticket.

All those gushing colour-supplement articles a few years ago about her "controlling every aspect of her image" were so persuasive that she must have started to believe in the immortality of her own fame. Alas, she is perhaps now beginning to realise that nearly all pop careers — like all political careers — are destined to decline into failure.

So what can a Material Girl do? Well, if she would care to forward £1,000, I can probably arrange a small but interesting part in a new movie with Oliver Reed . . .

The RSC takes its productions from Tiverton sports halls to Tokyo theatres. **Andy Lavender** reports

The Bard from A to B



TIM CUFF/APEX

The RSC on the road: "All we need is a hall and electricity," says its tour manager

You cannot get to the theatre easily? Then have the theatre come to you. Why not ask the Royal Shakespeare Company, for instance, to drop in to your local leisure centre? This is not as whimsical as it sounds. "Outreach" has long been a buzzword among theatre companies, and the RSC is reaching out more wholeheartedly than most. Its annual regional tour takes not only a Shakespeare play to the people, but the stage, seating and lights as well. Everything, in fact, to mount a full-scale production somewhere as seemingly theatre-resistant as, say, a sports hall.

The RSC and Manchester's Royal Exchange are the only building-based companies able to go on the road in this manner. But while the latter is cash-strapped, the RSC tours the country. Katie Mitchell's production of Shakespeare's *Henry VI*, which opened last July at the Other Place in Stratford, has been on the road this season. By the time it returns from Germany in May it will have completed the largest tour ever undertaken by the RSC, reaching venues as diverse as the renowned Piccolo Theatre in Milan and the somewhat less renowned Biggleswade Recreation Centre in Northamptonshire.

The company recently made another of these peculiar leaps of place and culture. Earlier this month it finished a short run in the sports hall of Tiverton High School in Devon. Then it moved across the world to the Globe Theatre in Tokyo.

To make continent-hopping a little easier, the production has four sets (all exactly the same) in different parts of the world. "All we need is a hall and an electricity supply and we bring everything else," says Jasper Gilbert, the tour manager. Like the best delegators, Gilbert recruits help where he can find it. Local people are always keen to get involved, he says, and in any case, one of the company's contractual requirements is for 14 able-bodied volunteers.

A band of novices taking apart a theatre set sounds like a recipe for chaos, but Gilbert's technicians marshal their helpers with affable efficiency. They have to, for the timetable allows no room for error. A typical week in England, for instance, begins with the get-in on Monday afternoon. The lights are rigged at 5pm, then the team works until 11pm constructing the set and installing the plastic seating. Everything is made safe and tidy the following morning, which leaves the afternoon to focus the lights, ready for the first performance. This might seem like "rough theatre", but Gilbert stresses his priority: to create an authentic theatre environment.

"You have to be able to dominate the space," he says. "The idea is that we're creating a real theatre feeling and trying to give the acting company as much of an infrastructure around them as we can."

And what an infrastructure. There is a fully computerised lighting desk operating 120 lamps. The sound is played through a digital system ("the highest quality possible"), and there are special-effects machines for the production's flutters of snow and mist. The dimensions of stage and set are obviously fixed, but Gilbert unpacks his drawing board once a week to design the most appropriate seating configuration for the next venue. In Tiverton, for instance, he constructed a three-sided auditorium with a seating capacity of 457. The maximum at his disposal is 646. "We're always trying to maintain the same relationship between the audience and the production, so that what you see is the same show you'd see in Stratford, not a substandard version," he explains.

Mitchell caught up with the production in Devon on a Friday and gave the cast notes on Saturday. The burghers of Tiverton responded warmly to the performance that evening. Then, even before the last of them had left, everything was being dismantled. Some of the actors lent a hand before driving back to London — Edward IV one minute, set-shifter the next. The technicians finished at 5am; the lighting equipment was checked in at Heathrow at 9am, destination Tokyo.

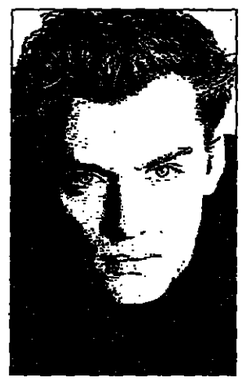
The tour is both evangelism for Shakespeare and self-promotion by the RSC. In England, it spreads the Bardic word to parts of the country which do not have their own theatre, and it is accompanied by an extensive educational package. It operates on a commercial basis — the RSC is booked by a range of local councils and promoters — but there are many ways to measure value for money.

"We lose financially putting on the show," says Neil Harrison, leisure services officer for Mid-Devon District Council, "but there are 450 people coming to Tiverton every night, putting money back into the local economy. And in terms of kudos for the local authority, what could be better than having the RSC?"

GREAT BRITISH HOPE

Rising stars in the arts firmament

JUDE LAW



Profession: Actor

Age: 22

Where can he be found? Largely in the Club Class lounge of British Airways, at least until March 9. Last weekend he flew to New York to start rehearsals for the Broadway production of Jean Cocteau's *Les Parents Terribles*, repeating his acclaimed National Theatre performance as the boy, Michael, whose girlfriend happens to have been the mistress of his father. But he has seven more performances to go in the starring role of Euripides's *Ion* at the RSC's Pit, which means New York producers will be flying him back and forth so he can fulfil both commitments.

Sounds pretty exhausting. "I don't think my body clock will get too disturbed," he says, aware that it is the sort of problem most actors dream of. "I'm not complaining."

And as for skipping out on *Ion*? Out of the question. "I wouldn't be crazy about anyone else playing that part."

His speciality? It seems to be young men with complicated umbilical ties to Mum. "Tell me about it," he laughs. Not that his own family life sounds terribly fraught. He and sister Natasha grew up in Lee Green in southeast London, the children of teachers. "They were just very cool parents, who encouraged us to do something we enjoyed."

What preceded the Cocteau-Euripides double-header? He spent 14 months between 16 and 17 playing "a Mancunian tearaway in true soap style" in the Granada series *Families*. His subsequent London stage debut was as Foxtrot Darling in Philip Ridley's Hampstead Theatre play, *The Fastest Clock In the Universe*. Ridley, Law says, "is a big hero of mine". The casting director of the film *Shopping* saw Law in the play and a film career was born.

But *Shopping* was a flop, wasn't it? "It got far too much press coverage for a first-time film and never really did much business. But it did launch Sean Pertwee and Sadie Frost and myself in quite a good light." Law plans to reteam with those two in a film, *The Hell Fire Club*, that should start once he finishes his stint in *Les Parents*, or *Indiscretions* as it is now called. He and journalist Alex Fenby have also written a film, *Billie and Brilliant*, based on Britain's female drug culture of the 1920s.

Any parts in it for him? Another laugh: "A juicy cameo."

MATT WOLF

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Amis on Travolta

"He opened the door himself so you walked straight into the icon . . . By his mid-30s he was simply a human vacuum, lost in Hollywood's interstellar void. Now he is 41, and his career has done something that the industry is hard put to find a vocabulary for. "Comeback" barely covers it. Forget "comeback". This product is flying straight from zero temperature to dignity . . ."

Martin Amis profiles John Travolta - The Magazine, in The Sunday Times tomorrow

Stepping out of the shadows



James Smetham's *The Knight's Bridal* 1864, an oil on panel

VISUAL ART: **John Russell Taylor** on James Smetham

Shortly after the death of James Smetham in 1889 there was a little flurry of interest. This was partly because the publication of his letters and literary works marked him out as an observer of rare delicacy and verbal precision, and partly because his old friend Dante Gabriel Rossetti was rumoured to have had a hand in his earlier paintings to make them more saleable.

Since then, almost nobody has taken any notice of Smetham. At best he figures among the shadowy attendance to the real grandees of Pre-Raphaelitism. Susan P. Casteras is really the first to consider Smetham in his own right, and her book, *James Smetham: artist, author, Pre-Raphaelite associate*, tells us all we could wish to know of his life and career. Hot on the book's heels comes the first ever retrospective exhibition of his works, fresh from the Yale Center for British art and all too briefly at Christie's.

From it, Smetham turns out to be a very interesting artist. Most of the work is not at all as one would expect from the close Pre-Raphaelitism connections: if Rossetti did contribute to any of these works, it is not apparent. Though there are moments when Smetham appears to have studied Pre-Raphaelitism practice closely, it is mostly the hard Germanic style of Ford Madox Brown, rather than the luxuriant invention of Rossetti or the hallucinatory clarity of early Millais.

Smetham, in fact, seems to belong to an earlier generation altogether: the minor visionaries who grouped round Blake, particularly Edward Calvert. Like Calvert he loves to depict scenes of Miltonic pastoral, and he drifts, in his later oil paintings at least, into a dreamy vagueness. He never was a brilliant draughtsman, and it is almost with a sigh of relief that he abandons the rule of Ruskin.

Around his mid-fifties, he had become convinced that he was never going to achieve wordly success as an artist. He was also drifting increasingly into melancholia and an obsessive religiosity. Among the most astonishing pieces in the show are his microscopic illustrations to the Bible: page after page of thumbnail sketches done either for his own satisfaction or towards a project incapable of achievement. All the same, and despite a touch of inescapable awkwardness, little gems such as *A Pilgrim at Stonehenge* and *Dagonet's Dance* distil an otherwordly poetry that is Smetham's alone.

● *James Smetham is at Christie's, 8 King Street, SW1 Mon-Fri 9am-5pm (Thurs to 8pm), Sun 2-5pm until March 10. Admission is free. James Smetham by Susan P. Casteras (Scolar Press) is £35.*

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(The Art of Pas de Deux)

2, 4 March
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Three Pieces for Violin / Firebird

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Tues 28 Feb - Sat 4 March 7.30pm
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STENA LINE – THE WORLD'S LEADING FERRY COMPANY

WEST END ENTERTAINMENT

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
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☐ **CELL MATES** Rik Mayall and originally Stephen Fry — but soon to be Simon Ward — play Sean Bourke and George Blake, in Simon Gray's low-key, slightly disappointing play.
Albery, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed, 3pm and Sat, 5pm.

☐ **A CHRISTMAS CAROL** John Mommer's adaptation, Ian Judge's direction and Clive Francis's Scrooge make this a cosy evening, well removed from the moral fervour of Dickens.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Today, 2pm and 7.15pm. ◪

☐ **THE CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE** Nigel Hawthorne plays the dilapidated Lord Ogleby and directs a strong cast in this good-hearted comedy about 18th-century greed, snobbery and true love.
Queens, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171 [illegible] 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Sat, [illegible]

◪ ***THE DANCE OF DEATH*** Strindberg's impassioned, sometimes comic, view of marriage as hell. Subtle characterisation by Gemma Jones and John Neville.
Almeida, Almeida St, N1 (0171-359 4404). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mat Sat, 4pm ◪

☐ **DESIGN FOR LIVING** Rachel Weisz, Rupert Graves and Marcus D'Amico in Coward's menage a trois comedy. Sean Mathias's award-winner, with even more sexual rough and tumble than at the Donmar.
Gielgud, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm ◪

■ **THE DUCHESS OF MALFI** Juliet Stevenson suffers, Simon Russell Beale writhes, in a production that isn't quite there yet but should improve.
Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (0181-858 7755). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. Until Mar 25 ◪

☐ ***FULL MOON*** Jon Strickland plays the hero of Caradog Prichard's powerful and haunting semi-autobiographical novel, set in the platteland districts of North Wales. Helena Kaut-Howson's acclaimed Theatr Clwyd production.
Young Vic, The Cut, SE1 (0171-928 6363). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Sat, 2.30pm. Until Mar 4 ◪

■ **HAMLET** Ralph Fiennes, Francesca Annis, James Laurenson, Peter Eyre, Paterson Joseph and Terence Rigby in Jonathan Kent's eagerly awaited Almeida production.
Hackney Empire, Mare Street, E8 (0171-312 1995). Return tickets only for rest of run, until Mar 25

◪ **SUZANNA ANDLER** Susan Hampshire plays the enigmatic heroine in Marguerite Duras's lyrical drama of late love. Lisa Forrell directs the author's recently revised text.
BAC 1, Lavender Hill, Battersea, SW11 (0171-223 2223). Tonight, 7.30pm; tomorrow, 5.30pm. Final week. ◪

■ **THE THREEPENNY OPERA** Phyllida Lloyd's splendidly inventive revival of Kurt Weill's opera. Tom Hollander sings Macheath and words by the team of writers customarily known as "Bertolt Brecht".
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham St, WC2 (0171-369 1732). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm. ◪

◪ **WHAT THE BUTLER SAW** Phyllida Lloyd directs Richard Wilson, John Alderton and Debra Gillett in Orton's farcical Freudian nightmare. Famously booed at its 1969 premiere, now a classic.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Now previewing, 7.30pm. Opens Mar 2. ◪

■ **ZORRO — THE MUSICAL** The masked swashbuckler rights wrongs, defies gravity and gives the audience a great time in a typically rumbustious Ken Hill show.
Theatre Royal, Gerry Raffles Square, Stratford, E15 (0181-534 0310). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Mar 2, 2pm and Mar 11 and 18, 2pm. Until Mar 18. ◪

LONG RUNNERS

◪ **Arcadia**, Haymarket (0171-930 5800) ■ **Buddy**, Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317) ■ **Copacabana**, Prince of Wales (0171-839 5972) . . ■ **Crazy for You**, Prince Edward (0171-734 8951) . ◪ **Five Guys Named Moe**, Lyric, until Mar 4 (0171-494 5045) ■ **Les Misérables**, Palace (0171-434 0909) ◪ **My Night With Reg**, Criterion (0171-839 4455) ■ **Oliver!**, Palladium (0171-494 5020) ☐ **On Approval**, Playhouse, final week (0171-839 4401) ◪ **A Passionate Woman**, Comedy (0171-369 1731) . . ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**, Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400) ☐ **She Loves Me**, Savoy (0171-836 8888) . ■ **The Sisters Rosensweig**, Old Vic, final week (0171-928 7616) ■ **Starlight Express**, Apollo Victoria (0171-828 8665) ■ **Sunset Boulevard**, Adelphi (0171-344 0055) . ■ **Three Tall Women**, Wyndhams (0171-369 1736) ◪ **The Woman in Black**, Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

LIFT TO THE SCAFFOLD Revival of Louis Malle's first film (1957), an absorbing thriller about a murder that goes wrong. With Maurice Ronet, Jeanne Moreau and a Miles Davis jazz score.
Everyman ◪ (071-435 1525)

◆ **NATURAL BORN KILLERS** (15). See Critics' Choice, page 2.

◆ **QUIZ SHOW** (15). See Critics' Choice, page 2.

◆ **THE RIVER WILD** (12) Criminals imperil a family on their white water rafting holiday. Enjoyable action thriller, with Meryl Streep and Kevin Bacon. Director, Curtis Hanson.
Barbican ◪ (0171-638 8891), **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Empire** ◪ (0800 888911), **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772), **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636), **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031), **Notting Hill Coronet** ◪ (0171-727 6705), **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

CURRENT

AMATEUR (15) Amnesiac pornographer loses his past with a former nun's help. Quirky, touching, pseudo-thriller from Hal Hartley, with Martin Donovan and Isabelle Huppert.
MGM Haymarket (0171-839 1527), **Minema** (0171-235 4225), **Renoir** (0171-837 8402)

◆ **ANDRE** Adventures of an orphaned seal. Well-packaged family film with Keith Carradine, Tina Majorino and a scene-stealing sea lion. Director, George Miller.
MGM Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031), **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666), **Mezzanine** ◪ (01426 915683), **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098), **Plaza** (0800 888997), **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332), **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

BANDIT QUEEN Dynamic, controversial drama about India's legendary outlaw, a ground-breaking production by Shekhar Kapur.
Chelsea (0171-351 3742), **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323), **Curzon West End** (0171-369 1722), **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666), **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520)

BARCELONA (12): Whit Stillman's successor to *Metropolitan*, an agreeable blend of romance, politics and disco dancing, set during the early 1980s. With Taylor Nichols and Chris Eigeman.
Metro (0171-437 0757), **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666), **Mezzanine** ◪ (01426 915683), **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098), **Plaza** (0800 888997)

◆ **BLACK BEAUTY** Unsatisfying, gloomy version of the children's classic, featuring Sean Bean and David Thewlis. Director, Caroline Thompson.
Barbican ◪ (0171-638 8891), **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323), **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636), **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031), **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332), **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

CAMILLA Whimsical swansong for Jessica Tandy, an aged concert violinist who rejuvenates a younger woman (Bridget Fonda). Director, Deepa Mehta.
MGM Piccadilly (0171-437 3561)

HEAVENLY CREATURES (15) Strange, fatal friendship of two New Zealand teenagers. Compelling, magnificent true-life drama from director Peter Jackson.
Lumiere (0171-836 0691), **MGM Fulham Road** ◪ (0171-370 2636), **Renoir** (0171-837 8402), **Richmond** (0181-332 0026)

◆ **INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE** (15) Tom Cruise shows Brad Pitt the glamorous way of life. Dull, over-stuffed version of Anne Rice's book.
MGMs: Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148), **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031), **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332), **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **JUNIOR** (PG) Juvenile jokes abound as Arnold Schwarzenegger gets pregnant. With Emma Thompson and Danny DeVito. Director, Ivan Reitman.
Empire (0800 888 911)

◆ **LEON** (15) Precious child shelters under a hitman's wing. Sleek, empty thriller shot in New York by French director Luc Besson.
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096), **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279), **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148), **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666), **Mezzanine** ◪ (01426 915683), **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098), **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **THE LION KING** (U) African lion cub almost loses his father's throne. Much hyped but charmless Disney cartoon, not meant for tiny tots.
MGMs: Fulham Road ◪ (0171-370 2636), **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031), **Odeons: Mezzanine** ◪ (01426 915683), **Kensington** (01426 914666), **Phoenix** (0181-883 2233), **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332), **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **ONLY YOU** (PG) Marisa Tomei chases the man of her dreams through Italy. Lazy blend of comedy, romance and travelogue, with Robert Downey Jr. Director, Norman Jewson.
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096), **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148), **Odeons: Mezzanine** ◪ (01426 915683), **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098), **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (792 3332)

◆ **PULP FICTION** (18). Quentin Tarantino's flamboyant crime epic weaves together three tales from the LA underworld. With John Travolta, Bruce Willis and Samuel L. Jackson.
MGMs: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636), **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527), **Odeon Marble Arch** (01426 914501), **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

LA REINE MARGOT (18). Bloody, bloated, occasionally impressive French history lesson, with Isabelle Adjani and Daniel Auteuil. Director, Patrice Chereau.
Curzon Mayfair (0171-369 1720), **Odeon Kensington** (01426-914666)

◆ **THE ROAD TO WELLVILLE** (15). Frolics and chicanery at a turn-of-the-century sanitarium. Overdone health food satire, with Anthony Hopkins, Bridget Fonda, Matthew Broderick. Director, Alan Parker.
Odeons: Mezzanine ◪ (01426 915683), **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098), **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **RUDYARD KIPLING'S THE JUNGLE BOOK** Muddled live-action adventures of jungle boy Mowgli. With Jason Scott Lee, Lena Headley, Cary Elwes. Director, Stephen Sommers.
MGM Chelsea (0171-352 5096), **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666), **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098), **West End** (01426 915574), **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

◆ **SHALLOW GRAVE** (18). Wickedly enjoyable comedy-thriller about three Edinburgh chums and a corpse loaded with money. Danny Boyle directs Kerry Fox, Christopher Eccleston and Ewan McGregor.
MGMs: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636), **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527), **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279), **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772), **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332), **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **SOLITAIRE FOR 2** (15): Body-language lecturer pursues archaeologist with ESP. Awkward comedy from *Pig Farmer* co-director Gary Sinyor. With Mark Frankel and Amanda Pays.
MGM Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031), **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666)

◆ **STARGATE** (PG): Galactic adventures of Kurt Russell and James Spader. Preposterous, derivative but fun; Roland Emmerich directs.
MGM Trocadero ◪ (0171-434 0031), **Odeon Mezzanine** ◪ (01426 915683), **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332), **Warner** ◪ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **STAR TREK: GENERATIONS** (PG): Talky but acceptable film debut for the stars of television's *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. Patrick Stewart meets William Shatner, David Carson directs.
Empire (0800 888911), **MGM Baker Street** (0171-935 9772), **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636), **Trocadero** ◪ (0171-434 0031), **Plaza** (0800 888997), **UCI Whiteleys** ◪ (0171-792 3332)

NEW ON VIDEO: Kubrick, Herzog, Buñuel and Chabrol — clear the video decks

■ **SPARTACUS**
CIC, PG, 1961
"PRESENTED for the first time uncut with never-before-seen footage," shouts the video box. As with the recent cinema revival, the handful of minutes added to Stanley Kubrick's epic about the proud Thracian slave struggling for freedom includes a few gobbets of gore and a foolish scene of Laurence Olivier limbering up for a bathtime seduction of Tony Curtis. Clichés rule eventually, but the opening scenes at the Capua gladiator school go with a swing, and if Kirk Douglas's set grimace gets wearing, Peter Ustinov, Olivier and Charles Laughton are always on hand to entertain.

■ **THE ENIGMA OF KASPAR HAUSER**
Tartan, 15, 1974
WERNER Herzog weaves his magic round the story of a strange 19th-century German who materialises in a town square, his origins unknown. Scientists get to work dissecting and rationalising the phenomenon; but Herzog and Hauser (played by the equally mysterious Bruno S.) leave a question mark over the value of civilised society. One of Herzog's best films.

■ **NORTH**
Guild, PG, 1994
ROB Reiner's quirky film follows Elijah Wood's young hero across the globe as he searches for the perfect home after divorcing his parents. Some quick, silly jokes to cherish; but a subplot about fostering revolution weighs down what should have been a light satire on family values. Littered with cameo players, from Bruce Willis, first seen in a pink bunny suit, to Graham Greene and Kathy Bates, Alaskan homebodies with a high-tech igloo. Available to rent.

■ **VIRIDIANA**
Electric, 15, 1961
BUNUEL returned to Spain from his Mexican exile to make this wonderfully sly film about a young nun (Silvia Pina), brimful of Christian charity, and her fate at the hands of her attentive uncle, local peasants and beggars. In the most famous sequence, a beggars' banquet slips into an outrageous parody of the Last Supper. Funny, deeply cynical, and disturbing; Spain banned it for 16 years.

■ **THE BURNING SEASON**
Warner, 15, 1994
DAVID Puttnam's long-cherished film about Chico Mendez was bounced around between producers, finally emerging as a cable-television movie, and an excellent one. Both Robert De Niro and Dustin Hoffman had been mentioned for the role of Mendes, who helped peasants in Brazil's rain forests fight the destruction of their terrain before being killed in 1988. But the role went to the late Raul Julia, already seriously ill, who gives his all in a low-key but powerful performance. Impressive work too from director John Frankenheimer, who pays due regard for local atmosphere and tries to avoid Hollywood tricks.

■ **UNE PARTIE DE PLAISIR**
Art House, 15, 1974
CLAUDE Chabrol's harrowing domestic melodrama is given a special resonance by its screenwriter Paul Gégauff, cast in the lead with his ex-wife Danièle in a semi-autobiographical, unrelenting story about a self-destructing marriage. Behind the husband's chauvinist tantrums lies a thwarted vision of paradise lost. Gégauff never regained his paradise in real life: he was stabbed to death by his second wife nine years later.

GEOFF BROWN



Sword play: Kirk Douglas stars as Spartacus in Stanley Kubrick's epic of a slave rebellion against imperial Rome

Making a compact with density

Today's CD is about to be superseded by one that can hold the complete works of Wagner

Last July, I mentioned that researchers at IBM and elsewhere were working on a whole new breed of silver disc capable of storing awesome amounts of information by using a series of separate layers. Now Philips and Sony, the joint creators of the original CD standard, have agreed on specifications for just such a disc format, to be called High Density Compact Disc, or HDCD.

This will be the same size as the present CD, which holds a maximum of 640 megabytes of data, and can be produced — though not played — on basically the same machinery. Even in its earliest form, though, HDCD will hold something like five times as much information, by reading the minute "pits" which comprise the digital information with a narrower red laser beam, 635 nanometres wide instead of 780 nanometres. The pits themselves can therefore be smaller and their spiralling track tighter, so many more will fit onto the disc's surface. The maximum capacity will be some 3.7 gigabytes. A gigabyte is a thousand megabytes.

That means an awful lot of sound recording — not just the *Ring* on a single disc, as one humorist suggested, but Wagner's complete works. The extra space could also be used to increase the bandwidth capacity — the "elbow-room" of the sound signal — from the present 16 bits to 18, and so the audio quality. This would make sense, as new recordings are increasingly made on 18 or 20-bit systems anyway.

FUTURE VISIONS

However, the extra capacity will be of most use to data-intensive applications such as video and multimedia. At the recent Las Vegas Consumer Electronics show, Sony was showing a prototype of the new disc as DVD, or Digital Video Disc, able to hold up to 135 minutes of high-quality video (the MPEG-2 standard I mentioned some months ago) on a single side — enough for a full-length film.

This much is only the beginning. With the American giant 3M, Philips and Sony are also developing that multiple-layer version, in which the laser will be able to shine right through the surface track to a second one underneath. This would increase the capacity to a mindboggling 7.4 gigabytes — enough for Wagner, Verdi and Puccini, probably. And, according to some informed sources, the technology could eventually be extended to as much as five layers. That is enough to make anyone blink, and to read some of the reporting, you would think the once-mighty CD was about to become obsolete tomorrow. But do not sell your collection just yet.

Over the past decade, CD has thoroughly colonised the world with its hardware and software; sheer inertia is going to keep it in place for a long time to come. For sound-only purposes not many people are going to need that vast extra capacity — not enough to pay for it, anyway. Furthermore, HDCD is not scheduled to reach the market for at least two years, and the first players are likely to cost about £1,000. This will confine them chiefly to business markets and the most expensive end of domestic CD-Rom and home cinema. It could be four or five years before the price falls enough to make HDCD a popular product. And all the players will be "backwards-compatible", able to play ordinary CDs as well. It is the secondary formats, the various videodisc and CD-Rom systems such as Video CD, in which investment is less heavy and constant upgrade more in demand, which are most in danger.

There is, however, another possibility — that any kind of spinning discs may be heading for an almighty slip. Their successor might already be here — the ordinary memory chip. Next time, I shall be looking at how likely this is. Meanwhile, enjoy the music.

MICHAEL SCOTT ROHAN

A tour de force, written by a genius, directed by a master — and analysed by Theatre Club members. How can you resist?

Dismember Miller's tale

THE ARTS TIMES
THE THEATRE CLUB

CRITICS agree that America's greatest living playwright, Arthur Miller, has surpassed even himself with *Broken Glass*. Set in Brooklyn in 1938, this powerful, brooding and darkly humorous play tells the story of a woman, her sudden paralysis and its effect on her panic-stricken husband. After a sell-out run at the National Theatre, *Broken Glass* has transferred to the Duke of York's theatre, St Martin's Lane, WC2 — and Theatre Club members can see it, and then discuss it over a glass of wine with its award-winning director, David Thacker.

Thacker is no stranger to Miller's work: as artistic director of the Young Vic he was responsible for productions of *The Crucible*, *All My Sons* and *The Last Yankee*. His production of *Pericles* for the Royal Shakespeare Company won the 1991 Olivier Awards for Best Director and Best Revival.

Club members can see the play on March 3 and attend the post-show discussion for £20 (the normal price of a ticket alone is £22.50). Tel 0171-836 9837, quoting your membership number

THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS

LONDON
The Playhouse
March 3
● INFLUENCE the development of a new play by attending the rehearsed reading of Michael Cooney's new thriller *Dead on Time*. Tickets £5, including a glass of wine during the interval. Following the reading there will be a brief discussion between the author/director, cast members and the audience. Tel 0171-839 4292

Young Vic
Feb 28-March 4
● CARADOG PRICHARD'S *Full Moon* vividly evokes life in the slate-mining district of north Wales during the First World War. Helena Kaut-Howson's powerful production is enhanced by Richard Blackford's atmospheric choral music. Theatre Club members can buy two tickets for the price of one (normally £6.50 and £13.50). Tel 0171-620 0568

Tricycle Theatre
Feb 27-29
● DUBBELJOINT was formed in 1990 to create popular theatre that confronts the problems facing contemporary Ireland. The company's new production *A Night in November (an Afternoon in June)* by Marie Jones marks the return of the highly successful team that produced *The Government Inspector* last year. Theatre Club members can buy two tickets for the price of one (normally £7.50). Telephone 0171-328 1000

BRIGHTON
Theatre Royal
March 1-4
● THE Rolling Stones and Hieronymous Bosch combine to produce an evening of "athletic and glamorous dancing", under the direction of Christopher Bruce. *The Garden of Earthly Delights* uses music, movement lighting and special effects (with both musicians and dancers "flying" on stage) to bring to life Bosch's surreal painting of the same name. Danced to the music of the Stones, *Rooster* is full of driving energy and wit. Club members can buy tickets for £9 (normal price £14). Tel 01273 327480

SHEFFIELD
Crucible Theatre
March 6, 13, 20
● JUDY FLYNN stars in *When We Are Married* by J.B. Priestley. Club members can buy tickets for £4.50 and £5.50 (normally £9 and £11). Tel 0114-276 0621

PLYMOUTH
Theatre Royal
March 15-24
● ONE of Tennessee Williams's most powerful and moving plays, *The Glass Menagerie* is the story of Amanda Wingfield, abandoned by her husband and taking refuge in recollections of her "gentleman callers". Theatre Club members can buy tickets for £4.50 (normally £6.50). Tel 01752 267222

WINCHESTER
Theatre Royal
March 6-11
● YOUNG lovers conspire to avoid a father's marriage plans, setting off an unstoppable, unpredictable series of farcical events in *Love is a Drug*, designed and directed by Antonio Fava. Save 25 per cent on tickets for all performances (normally £9.50 to £12.50). Tel 01962 843434

DUNDEE
Repertory Theatre
March 15-16
● WINNER of the *Evening Standard* Most Promising Playwright award, Rona Munro's *Bold Girls* tells the story of four streetwise women in west Belfast. Club members can buy tickets for £4.50 and £6 (normally £6.50 and £8). Tel 01382 223530

NOTTINGHAM
Theatre Royal
March 6-9
● THE classic Sean O'Casey play *The Plough & The Stars* is set in the tenements, streets and bars of Dublin in the days of the 1916 Rising. Members can save £4 on tickets (normally £12-£16). Tel 0115-948 2626

BLACKPOOL
Grand Theatre
March 7-8
● MILLICENT MARTIN, Patrick Cargill, Michael Cashman and Mark Curry star in Michael Frayn's comedy *Noises Off*. Members can buy tickets for £5 to £11 (normally £7 to £13). Tel 01253 28372



One of this year's must-see plays: Margot Leicester in Arthur Miller's *Broken Glass* — see first listing

JOIN NOW

TO JOIN the Theatre Club either send a cheque for £12.50, made payable to The Theatre Club, together with your name, address and telephone number to The Theatre Club, P.O. Box 2164, Colchester CO1 1GN, or telephone 0206 791737 using your credit card. Please allow 28 days for delivery of your membership pack. For general inquiries call 071-387 9673
TO BOOK for any or all of this week's special offers, please phone the listed number during normal office hours. The price printed on the ticket you receive is the special price negotiated by the Theatre Club. There may be a transaction charge to cover postage. Membership of the Theatre Club costs £12.50 a year and entitles members to buy two tickets for any club offer. Every week, members can save money, meet the cast and directors of productions, or visit different theatres on exclusive weekend breaks

RECORDINGS: Jennifer Larmore is an unflashy Cinderella; Molly Half Head's twist on the Beatles; Schubert has never had it so good

OPERA

John Higgins

■ **ROSSINI**
La Cenerentola
Larmore/Gimenez/Quilico/-Corbelli Royal Opera House Orchestra/Rizzi
Teldec 4909-94553-2 (2 CDs)★★★
THE Covent Garden Orchestra produces a regular flow of ballet recordings, but a couple of years have passed since its last complete opera set. On the evidence of Teldec's *Cenerentola* the absence is too long. Under Carlo Rizzi the Opera House players produce true Rossini fizz, but there is also a precision that Abbado used to demand when he toured this opera around the world with the Scala company.

Like Abbado, Rizzi delights in Rossini's trademarks: the susurrations in the orchestra during the Act I finale, the obligatory storm in Act II. And, like Abbado, he demands a cast which can roll every "r" and spit out every "p" in the sextet of bewilderment. *Questo è un nodo avvilupato*, which can be roughly translated as "Here's a pretty mess".

Rizzi's cast serves him admirably. The American mezzo, Jennifer Larmore, has yet to sing Cenerentola at Covent Garden and on this evidence the omission should be quickly rectified. It is not a flashy performance, although Larmore pips out the extravagant runs of the final rondo with the best of them. Instead, she concentrates on the innate kindliness of Rossini's Cinderella. The phrase "*trionfa la bontà*" ("beneficence triumphs") crops up a couple of times in the second act and it is all personified in Cinderella. Jennifer Larmore, with her smoky and generous timbre, catches this perfectly.

She also catches the love-at-first-sight encounter with Ramiro in Act I, where prince and pauper are as moonstruck as Rodolfo and Mimi in *Bohème*. Raul Gimenez is as graceful a performer as ever the noble suitor, with a bracelet rather than a glass slipper to match. The tripartite aria in which he sets off on the quest is not quite given the heft that Araiza brought to it on Sony's set, but Gimenez certainly has a go.

Alessandro Corbelli was also on that recording as the philosopher Alidoro (here taken with nice gravity by Alastair Miles). He now moves up to the role of Don Magnifico, Cinderella's greedy old stepfather, and shows himself to be the natural successor to Enzo Dara who long commandeered the role. Corbelli's sense of timing and comedy is a joy, and he is at his best in the skirmishes with Dandini. The valet is sung by Gino Quilico with deft good humour. Adelina Scarabelli and Laura Polverelli are the "ugly" sisters, chattering away like a pack of starlings and just as bad tempered.


The American mezzo, Jennifer Larmore, sings Cinderella and concentrates on the character's innate kindness

ORCHESTRAL

Barry Millington

■ **BIZET**
Symphony in C;
Roma;
Patrie
Orchestre du Capitole de Toulouse/Plasson
EMI CDC 5 55057 2★★★

☐ **BIZET**
Symphony in C;
Jeux d'enfants;
Scènes Bohémiennes
New Zealand SO/Johanos
Naxos 8.553027★★★
THOUGH it has only been in the repertoire since 1935, following the rediscovery of its score, Bizet's youthful *Symphony in C* is an attractive, skilfully wrought and deservedly popular work. Bizet was only 17 when he wrote it, but the symphony is far more than an adroit reworking of stylistic models: the richness of its invention gives clear notice of a major composer in the wings.

Both these new recordings do the piece full justice. Perhaps Michel Plasson's lightness of touch gives him the edge in capturing the Rossinian sparkle of the first movement. But Donald Johanos's weightier orchestral sound, with trumpets and drums more prominent, brings out the influence of (early) Beethoven and Schubert which is also undeniably there.

Nor is Johanos's New Zealand Symphony Orchestra inferior to Plasson's better-known Orchestre du Capitole de Toulouse — indeed, the latter's tone can be a mite acerbic — producing the occasional sour note.

In the finale, Plasson's han-


Bizet: youthful zest

dling of the march-like bridge theme (a foretaste of the street urchins' music in *Carmen*) is more extrovert and has a more focused sound. Otherwise, in both the Adagio, with its soaring string theme, and the Scherzo there is very little to choose between the two versions, though Johanos is more scrupulous about repeats.

The matter may therefore be decided by economics. Naxos (Johanos) being a budget label, while the EMI release (Plasson) is full price. Or it may be decided by the coupling. If you are attracted by the little suite from *Jeux d'enfants* and the gypsy scenes from *The Fair Maid of Perth*, the Naxos disc is the one to have.

Plasson offers two less familiar works that are worth investigating: *Patrie*, a response to the Franco-Prussian War, has its moments but is marred by over-inflated rhetoric. *Roma* is Bizet's other major symphonic work, lacking the spontaneity and youthful zest of the C Major yet, in spite of its touches of melodrama and sanctimoniousness, containing some inspired music, scored with Bizet's characteristic mastery.

20th CENTURY

Stephen Pettitt

■ **KANCHELI**
Symphonies Nos 6 and 7, "Epilogue"
Tbilisi SO/Kakhidze
Sony Classical SMK 66 590★★★
THE work of the Georgian composer Giya Kancheli is outwardly just as disturbing in its elemental extremes as the Sixth and Seventh Symphonies (1981 and 1989) prove. Yet Kancheli has a penchant also for a sweetness, more prevalent in the Seventh than the Sixth. The recording is vivid, to say the least, and comes with warnings about extremes of dynamic that those of nervous disposition should certainly heed. The playing of the excellent Tbilisi Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Kancheli's long-time champion, Jansug Kakhidze, has real passion behind it.

☐ KANCHELI
Morning Prayers/Abū ue viderem/Evening Prayers.
Soloists/Stuttgart Kammerorchester/Russell Davies
ECM New Series 445 941-2★★★
ECM's Kancheli disc includes two pieces, *Morning Prayers* (1990) and *Evening Prayers* (1991) from the affecting cycle *Life without Christmas*, while *Abii ne viderem* (1992-94), though suffused with more overt drama than those two understated pieces, is closely related to their bleak world, its title a reflection of the composer's self-admonition at having left Georgia when atrocities against humanity were on the rise.

The flavour here, thanks partly to the presence in *Morning Prayers* and *Evening Prayers* of the human voice (the distantly piping, pre-recorded boy treble of Vasiko Tevdoradshvii in the first and the four singers of the Hilliard Ensemble in the second), is less aggressive than in the two symphonies, and more affecting. The message, however, is essentially the same: a tale of centuries of hardship. Again, fine performances all, this time from Dennis Russell Davies and the Stuttgart Chamber Orchestra; but do not play this disc if you want to be cheered up.

☐ **USTVOLSKAYA**
Compositions I, II, III
Schonberg Ensemble/De Leeuw
Philips 442 53-2★★★
THE former Soviet territories are proving rich picking grounds for the record companies keen on demonstrating their contemporary music credentials. One welcomes nevertheless these three releases of work by two of the region's most important composers.

Of the two composers, one born in 1919, the other in 1935, the older, Galina Ustvolskaya, pupil and intimate of Shostakovich, strikes me as perhaps possessing the more potent and radical voice. Her *Composition I*, *Composition II* and *Composition III*, each subtitled with the name of a section from the Requiem Mass, and each inhabiting a remarkably advanced sound-world considering the dates of composition (1970-71, 1972-73 and 1974-75), show her concerned with elemental effect.


Ustvolskaya: heartfelt music

Slow, simple, repetitious, based on bland assertion rather than organic development and simple fragments of melody (is the reference to Purcell's *Dido's Lament* deliberate?), this is heartfelt music. Its shocking impact is partly derived from its scoring, which is outwardly bizarre but perfectly suited to the temperament of each movement.

Composition I is for piccolo, tuba and piano; *Composition II* for eight double basses, piano and a cube of sides precisely 43 cms long; *Composition III* for four flutes, four bassoons and piano. The Schonberg Ensemble play with the right mix of poise and aggression under Reinbert De Leeuw's direction; it is good to see these artists assembling a major and innovative discography for a major company.

LIEDER

Hilary Finch

■ **SCHUBERT**
Lieder
Blochwitz/Jansen
Philips 438 932-2★★★
NEVER has Schubert had it so good; never has it been more baffling for the record collector. Among the piles of reissues from the old guard and the new releases from the young, a new disc of his songs from the German tenor Hans Peter Blochwitz makes a loud case for itself this month.

This is no heavily significant thematic recital, no diligent historical survey: Blochwitz offers a sampler of 19 songs, from the earliest Goethe settings to the very last song Schubert wrote. He sings of babbling brooks, of moonlight nights, of fishermen and wanderers, all with a fresh delight which is sure to get the beginner hooked. Yet there is enough art and sophistication here to ensnare the connoisseur too.

Rudolf Jansen's piano playing makes a song such as *Der Musensohn* live in air, yet has its feet firmly on the ground for the trotting farewell of *Abschied* or the wild gallop of *Auf der Bruck*. Even in the darkest, latest songs, such as *Die Stadt*, Blochwitz makes sure that the words do not bear down on the music, but live nimbly in its current. Don't miss this one.

☐ **SCHUMANN**
Liederkreis, Songs, etc
Schmidt/Jansen
DG 439 943-2★★
RUDOLF Jansen reappears, this time with Andreas Schmidt on his latest Lieder disc, and the pianist's robust attention to detail helps to focus and brighten the more introverted musical personality of this baritone. Schmidt is a thoughtful performer — though hardly the zombie Christopher Nupen made him out to be in his recent film of Schubert's last years. There are times, though, when one wishes that more of the question marks, exclamation marks, smiles and doubts within a cycle such as Schumann's *Liederkreis* would register in his voice. Schmidt's control of line, dynamics and verbal inflection in a song such as *Mondnacht* is exemplary, but the frisson factor is a little low.

He engages more with the composer's 12 simple and sober settings of poems by Kerner, and his earnest enunciation re-creates Schumann's own clear-sighted responses to the vivid images of Hans Christian Andersen's poetry.

POP ALBUMS

David Sinclair

■ **P. J. HARVEY**
To Bring You My Love
Island 524 085★★
WITH her flowing black hair, pale complexion and blood-red lips, P. J. Harvey could, fleetingly, be mistaken for an English rose. But if so, she is one whose music is more thorn than petal.

To Bring You My Love, her fourth album in three years, sounds at times like the work of a soul cast into outer darkness. "I've lain with the Devil/Cursed God above/Forsaken heaven/To bring you my love," she wails in a tone of increasing agitation. Like most of the album it is unforgiving, hung on the brittle bones of a simple bluesy riff played by Harvey.

At its most forbidding, as on the claustrophobic *I Think I'm A Mother*, Harvey's music recalls the voodoo narratives of Nick Cave.

But whereas previous P. J. Harvey albums have accentuated her more acerbic qualities (especially *Rid Of Me*), on this one the production — by Flood, Harvey and John Parish — brings out a more beguiling quality. And a new side is revealed on *C'Mon Billy* and *Send His Love To Me*, both neat tunes driven by acoustic guitars.

Nothing can impinge on the witchy sense of otherness that Harvey brings to her music, but these songs are among the most accessible she has yet recorded. All the signs are that her time has come.

POP SINGLES

David Sinclair

■ **MOLLY HALF HEAD**
Breaking The Ice
Columbia 661216★★
THE curiously named Molly Half Head have been threatening great things since the release of a fine debut album, *Sulk*, in 1993. They come from Manchester (where else?); they sneer a lot and their music is subject to a slight but persistent John Lennon influence.

But, unlike Oasis, that other Beatles-inspired group from Manchester, Molly Half Head have given the familiar ingredients an entirely new, left-field twist. *Breaking The Ice* is a great up-tempo pop song, with lots of edge and a killer chorus, despite its inscrutable lyric: "What goes round is coming round again/What goes down is coming up again".


Molly Half Head: edge

The B-sides, *Blistered* and *Airwaves*, are altogether more weird songs, which suggest an early interest in the Fall and some of the more extreme sonic digressions of the first Roxy Music album.

Watch out for a new album, due in May.

JAZZ

Clive Davis

■ **VARIOUS ARTISTS**
Burning for Buddy: A tribute to the music of Buddy Rich
Atlantic/Anthem 7567-82699-2★★
THE reviews were mixed — to put it mildly — on the quality of Buddy Rich's orchestra and its arrangements, particularly in the last years of his life, but no one would have dared to question Buddy Rich's commitment to the big band ethos.

Though subtlety was never his main asset, he remained a volcanic showman who enjoyed nothing better than whipping his men on to greater efforts. Other bands fell by the wayside, the victim of economics and audience indifference; Rich held his together by sheer force of personality.

Burning for Buddy boasts a decidedly odd pedigree. Conceived and produced by Neil Peart, the project involved assembling a battalion of drummers, and setting them loose on a collection of Rich scores, performed by the great man's orchestra.

Marvin "Smitty" Smith and David Brubeck's illustrious colleague Joe Morello carry the flag for the jazz mainstream, and Max Roach makes an appearance, in two soundbites from the solo piece *The Drum Also Waltzes*.

The unlikely list of outsiders ranges from the ever-versatile Steve Gadd, the king of bombastic funk Billy Cobham, and — the most unlikely choice of all — Matt Sorum from the headbangers Guns 'N' Roses. This album is the first of two or three volumes, the second of which, we are promised, will lean more towards the swing tradition.

Against all the odds, the mish-mash of styles holds together. As big band music goes, it may not be all that sophisticated or daring, but what we are left with are a dozen or so in-your-face performances that would probably have had Rich (a perfectionist if ever there was one) emitting a grunt of approval.

Peart himself has a chance to sit in the cockpits for *Cotton Tail*, riding the hi-hat with assurance as he waits for the horns to introduce the theme. There is a workaday quality to many of the charts, the players gearing up for one climax after another. Bill Bruford's own composition, *Lingo*, breaks away from the routine and replaces the juggernaut reed settings with quirky, pop-influenced keyboard textures.

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THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

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FARMER'S DIARY: PAUL HEINEY

It is that time of year when pregnant ewes have to be watched very carefully. In the last few weeks before birth, the growing lamb places huge demands on the mother's metabolism, and things can go wonky. We have had a couple of ewes who decided it was all too much for them: one thought things might be better if she gave her insides an airing, and prolapsed. The vet stuffed it all back and told her not to do it again. But the other ewe was more serious and needed to be dosed to prevent further trouble. One of the symptoms of her problem was a lack of spatial awareness: she would stand, muddled and slightly confused. The vet left me a large bottle of medicine with these instructions: "If you see anything wandering around looking lost, give it a dose!"

Well, we could all do with a swig at that bottle. As anyone who knows this farm realises only too well, we are all in a permanent state of bewilderment. I put it down to drink, which, I now confess, has proved to be the remedy to a long-standing problem.

Before Christmas I opened my heart to you concerning the chaotic state of the farm workshop. No job could be attempted, because to do so would require the workshop to be tidied, which was a job beyond any normal individual. I asked for your suggestions on how to achieve a permanent tidiness. They were welcome, but none offered what I thought would be a final solution. Then alcoholic drink reared its tantalising head.

It is the practice of our local wine-merchant to dispose of small-ish, but sturdily built, wooden wine-boxes when the contents have been sold. I bought a dozen. In one I put the small spanners, in another the large; yet another has anything related to mending fences, and one contains plumbing bits and pieces. Nothing clever about that, you might say. But where the system scores over all others is that tools have taken on an entirely new personality. You see, the boxes still carry the labels describing the bottles they used to contain. In the one which bears the mark *LUEsprit-Chevalier Rouge 1990*, I keep large screwdrivers, and so instead of facing a stubborn screw and the prospect of hunting down a screwdriver underneath a mound of clutter, I now embark upon the search with the care of a vintner going through his finest wines. Screwdrivers have now become known on this farm as chevaliers; in a box stamped *Château Cissac*, we keep the screws, and in a *Ma De Daumas Gassac* can be found the hammers. When a gate needs fixing and we decide on the tools for the job, I say to myself, "We'll need two heavy chevaliers, a handful of mixed Cissacs, and we'll give it a belt with the Gassac if it doesn't fit." Silly, I know, but farming can be repetitive and lonely, and it eases the daily burden a little.

The other reason I and my helpers have all been going round in circles is because of your response to my request for advice on the trussing of hay. Cutting hay and carting it from stack to cattle happens several times a week here in the winter, and I am not certain I am going about it the best way. Mr Mitchell of Ruislip warns me that his great-grandfather fell from a stack in 1872, and died. He advises me that hay cannot be trussed properly without a long steel pin with a looped handle at one end, which I do not have.

More worrying came a note from Kent after I mentioned the wimble, a device for turning hay or straw into ropes which were used to tie the cut trusses of hay. The note says, "I rang a farmer who knew more about it than me. Unfortunately, he didn't want to go on about it." Curious. Is the use of the wimble some kind of secret? After gleaning a little knowledge, my correspondent then says "... at that point he lost me, and I dare not ring him back." *Dare not?* What kind of men were these old hay-trussers?

With the method of making straw into rope not much clearer, I was thankful for an illustrated letter from Nicholas Wood, the most explicit I have received on the subject, which gives full details of the Berwickshire method. It is clearly a team effort requiring two men matched equally in speed; one to turn the wimble, the other to feed the straw.

It was all becoming a little clearer, until I opened another letter which contained the twisted remnants of a Marks and Spencer bag. It is possible that this gruesome little exhibit may unlock the great agricultural mystery of turning straw into rope. I shall examine it closely, and report further. But perhaps now you will understand why we are all wandering round in circles, bewildered, and reaching for the sheep medicine.

PLANET EARTH



The mole may look harmless but it is the bane of the lives of the many groundsmen and gardeners who wage war on the invader

Moles: to catch, kill or tolerate

The writings of Kenneth Grahame excepted, the mole has not had a good press since the death of King William III nearly three centuries ago. "Dutch Billy" died from a cold caught after he was thrown from his favourite horse, Sorrel, in Hampton Court Park. The horse was said to have stumbled over a mole-hill, and the Jacobites were quick to show their appreciation of the small insectivore's part in the action. "The little gentleman in black velvet" was a popular toast for some time afterwards.

It is not a salutation that is heard often now and it certainly does not rise readily to the lips of groundsmen, greenkeepers and gardeners. With the arrival of spring, mole activity reaches one of its seasonal peaks, and perhaps only those who have planted or laid new stretches of lawn appreciate just how much damage the underground worker can do.

> The 'little gentleman in black velvet' is an unwelcome visitor almost everywhere

For anyone who finds himself having to deal with an invading mole, the best advice is to shovel away the surface soil and call a truce. Once the initial excavations have been made there is seldom any more damage to the terrain, although a substantially built gardener is always liable to put a foot through the roof of the earthworks. It is almost certain, incidentally, that this is what Sorrel did: no self-respecting horse would trip over a mound of earth.

If the weather is frosty when a mole's activities start, a worthwhile tip is to throw a little water over the hillocks. The frozen heaps of earth can be lifted in one piece the following morning.

If the invaded area borders open country, it is a waste of time trying to remove the miscreant. Success means no more than that a vacancy has been created, and that the desirable residence will be reoccupied as soon as it is found to be without an owner.

There are times, though, when trapping the mole is the only solution to an incursion. The old mole-catchers had a vested interest in making such a practice appear difficult but, in spite of the mystique that attaches itself to the art, it requires no great skill. It is true, though, that a little knowledge of mole behaviour can be helpful.

Tunnels often take surprising twists and turns, but they are easily located if a pointed stick is used to probe the occupied ground. Somewhere between two molehills is an obvious starting point. Sooner or later there will be only slight resistance to the stick indicating that it has penetrated the roof of a tunnel. Then, in theory at any rate, it is necessary only to open up the run, set the trap, put it in position and replace the turf.

In practice it is as well to clear away any loose soil lying in the tunnel. When the mole moves through its burrows it uses one fore-limb to push such debris along in front of it and the accumulation can trigger the trap before the animal reaches it. Also, in easily worked soil the mole may simply by-pass what it sees as a minor obstacle to its progress. In such situations pieces of slate or suitable stones may be positioned so that they channel the victim along the desired route. It is a good idea too for the avenger to mark the trap's location. Irate groundsmen searching for lost apparatus have been known to cause more damage than the moles.

Setting the traps requires some care since they are not only temperamental but, of necessity, double-sided. The Duffus traps which most professionals on my side of the border — Scotland — prefer, are like curved metal mousetraps with the working mechanism on the lower side. There is a spring-loaded killing loop of wire at each end with a smaller trigger loop nearer the centre. The mole pushes into one side of the trap, and when it has passed half-way through the wire it sets off the trigger. The loop is released, springs upwards and crushes the animal's chest.

There is a scissor trap which is equally efficient but poses a problem — at least in my patch of countryside. Part of the mechanism protrudes above the ground and can be spotted by local wanderers who are quite likely to have mole troubles of their own, and to help themselves to the traps.

The novice setting his first trap is always anxious to know what will happen if it crashes shut while he is handling it. The traditional, and less than reassuring, response is that it is nothing to worry over since it is one of those mistakes that no one ever makes twice.

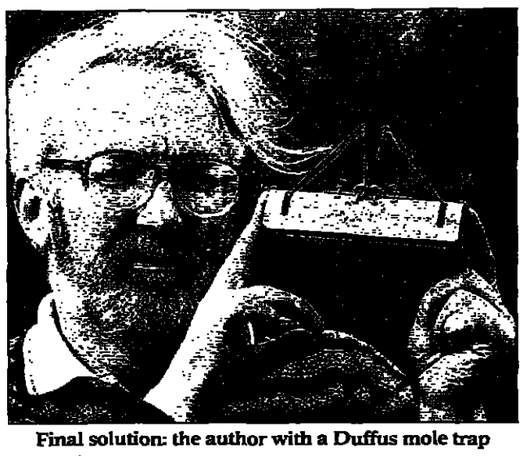
The whole business of trapping may sound heartless, and I would be the last to defend it if I thought there was any reasonable alternative. Death is said to be instantaneous but twice I have seen moles which have dragged traps from the ground and died on the surface 20 metres away. However the only effective alternative to using traps is to put down poisoned earthworms as bait. This introduces other dangers, and is almost certainly no kinder to the mole.

Over the years I have tried most of the home-spun remedies which are occasionally given an airing and they have all, for me at any rate, been conspicuously unsuccessful.

Strangely, the most far-fetched solution is the only one I know that has any record of success. Exasperated victims are often portrayed patrolling their garden with shotguns, and this is exactly what farmers did in the past.

Moles make journeys through their territories at fairly regular four-hour intervals. In those far-off days before the first little grey Ferguson tractors arrived, most farmers walked every inch of their land, and they had a fair idea of even such minor events as the time when a particular mole would be active. If there was any movement in the earthworks as they passed by, both the mole and the mole-hill would be blasted out of existence.

JAMES O'HAGAN



Final solution: the author with a Duffus mole trap

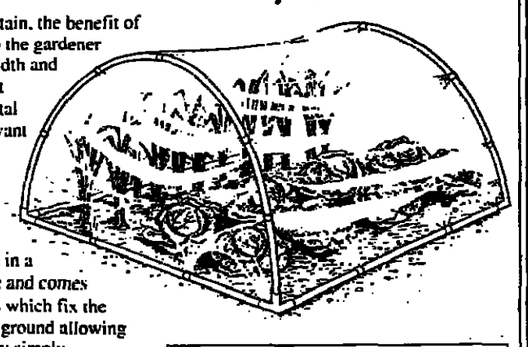
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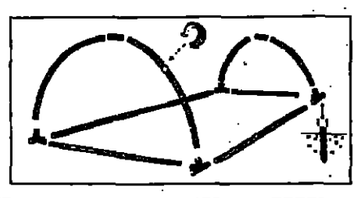
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Feather Report

Come sit on my ledge

GANNETS ARE returning to the cliffs and rocky islets where they nest. All through the winter they have been far from home. The younger birds have been fishing in the warm seas off West Africa. The older ones have been out in the North Sea and the Atlantic, or drifting round European shores.

They are among our most spectacular birds. Just to see two or three flying across the horizon is an arresting sight. They are pure white, apart from yellowish heads and black wing tips, and they are almost four feet long from the tip of their fierce bill to the end of their pointed tail. They glide smoothly over the waves, or pass by with majestic wing beats high above the water.

The younger birds look quite different from the adults. The juveniles are practically black, with white flecks. Slowly the black diminishes and the white areas grow — but it is five years before they are fully grown.

Best of all is to see gannets fishing. When they detect a shoal of fish under the water they rise slightly in the air, half-close their wings, and plunge like a harpoon into the sea. Their wings close tighter just before they enter the water, but they still raise a tremendous splash.

Air sacs under their feathers fill out as they dive, and cushion them against the impact of the water. The air sacs also bring them to the surface again before they need to breathe. They swallow whole the fish they have caught, and clumsily take to the air again.

Gannets are found only in small parties in the winter, but in the summer they are among the most intensively colonial of all birds. They nest on suitable cliff ledges in vast numbers, just out of range of each other's beaks. Around the north and west coasts of Britain there are about 150,000 breeding pairs — with 50,000 of those on the small St Kilda's island of Boreray.



The sea-faring gannet

Another well-known breeding site is the Bass Rock in the Firth of Forth, which you can sail around in a boat from North Berwick.

Just now the first males are back on the ledges, trying to attract passing females. Courtship involves much head-shaking and clattering together of beaks by the prospective pair, and it is followed by tender mutual preening as they settle down together.

However, when a female is away fishing, the male may at this early stage lure another female to his ledge, and when the first one comes back there will be a fierce fight between the two females.

It all sounds very human, but there is probably a biological advantage in the male's faithless behaviour. His first choice may well have gone fishing hundreds of miles away — and faced with the hazards of the sea may never return.

Later the pair get to know each other's voices. They take turns to incubate their solitary egg, and when the one who has been out feeding returns, it soars up the cliff face calling with a raucous cry. Gannets, herring gulls, fulmars and kittiwakes may be swirling about the ledges, but amidst all the din, the incubating bird recognises its mate's call and prepares to greet it.

For centuries, gannet eggs and fat young gannets were taken for food by marauding humans hanging on ropes down the cliff face. It has been estimated that a million gannets have been taken from the Bass Rock alone in the last thousand years. Now they are protected by law, which may be why their numbers are slowly increasing.

There is probably still some fierce weather to come this year, but they will not be much troubled by it. They sit on their ledges, warm in their thick feathers, till a blizzard has passed. Then they drop off on to an air current, and are soon far away — lonely white hunters of the sea again.

ufrevend

Derwent May

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● *Robin Jacques is away.*

هكذا من الأهلية

Sniff out the twiggy beauties

George Plumptre, The Times Gardener, on flowering shrubs for early spring

There could be no better recommendation for a shrub than to be described in *Hillier's Manual of Trees and Shrubs* as: "This easily grown, exquisitely beautiful group of Asiatic shrubs should be much more widely planted." Such praise is rare, but deserving in the case of the corylopsis family, which is producing its racemes of gentle yellow flowers now.

I am normally wary of shrubs that flower on bare wood before producing their leaves. *Daphne mezereum* springs to mind: despite the brilliance of its bobbly, pink flowers, it always looks rather stark. Added to this, the best-known winter and early-spring yellows — winter-flowering jasmine, forsythia and hamamelis (witch hazel, to which the corylopsis is related) — can be too bright, their effect accentuated by lack of foliage.

Such strong shades seem rather over the top at this stark time of the year, but the pendulous corylopsis flowers have a delicate, pale-primrose shade of yellow in keeping with early spring.

The plants all originate in China or Japan, where they grow as woodland plants in the wild. Most prefer acid or neutral soil but will tolerate chalky ground, as long as it is well-mulched with leaf mould. They are ideal for planting in the shelter of a wall or semi-shaded woodland, as a fierce March frost can damage the flowers. Otherwise, they are not fussy and grow happily in a border. They rarely grow higher than 4ft and do not need pruning.

Distinctive red anthers offset the pale yellow petals of some varieties. The most striking of these are *Corylopsis veitchiana* and *C. spicata*, whose anthers dangle from the hanging flowers. All varieties do well as cut flowers, and some, such as *C. veitchiana*, will fill a room with sweet scent. *C. pauciflora* has a cowslip-like scent, and *C. glabrescens* is similar.

C. pauciflora has short racemes, each carrying two to three little cup-shaped flowers, but other varieties achieve striking length. *C. sinensis* (correctly, *C. sinensis var. sinesis*) can carry racemes of up to 20 flowers, while *C. sinensis var. willmottiae* often flowers in even greater profusion.

From a distance, you could be forgiven mistaking a corylopsis for another early-spring flowering shrub, stachyurus, that I recommend planting. However, the racemes of stachyurus are clearly longer, the individual flowers smaller and less open than those of corylopsis. But its main attraction is the same: delicate, pale-yellow flowers hanging in clusters from bare branches in March.

There are two stachyurus species hardy enough to grow throughout Britain. Like the corylopsis they are oriental: *S. praecox*, originating from Japan, *S. chinensis* from China. (The latter has the distinction of having been introduced in 1908 by E. H. "Chinese" Wilson, the legendary plant-hunter.)

Once established, the plants will defy the bleakest of March weather and continue to flower bravely. Both thrive in woody, well-mulched soil and grow to become spreading plants of up to about 6ft tall and slightly less across. *S. praecox* is probably more widely grown, its racemes of 20 or more small flowers hanging like catkins to a length of about 4in. *S. chinensis* flowers a week or two later and its racemes are longer, sometimes growing to 6in. A healthy plant, with rows of buttermilk-yellow flower spikes along its bare branches, it is an elegant addition to any early-spring garden.

THE GARDEN PICTURE LIBRARY



*In spring, **Corylopsis pauciflora** produces cup-shaped yellow flowers with a cowslip-like scent*

An early-spring shrub which has been cultivated in gardens far longer than either corylopsis or stachyurus is *Cornus mas*, the earliest of the dogwoods to flower and one of the most arresting sights at this time of year. Although growth is sometimes slow and, like corylopsis and stachyurus, it is often a shy flowerer at first, it happily makes a spreading small tree of about 8ft-10ft.

You should grow *C. mas* for the overall effect of the tree, covered from top to bottom with a pale yellow shroud. The clusters of small, ribbony, yellow flowers that on a good plant almost smother the bare branches are not in themselves particularly impressive, but placed in front of an evergreen backdrop, the impact can be terrific.

Its common name, the Cornelian Cherry, derives from the small red fruits which come with foliage after the flowers have gone. *C. mas* likes a sunny position and will grow in most soil types.

As there seems to be no danger of a parched spring after the winter soaking, there is time to plant any of these shrubs during the next few weeks, otherwise wait until the autumn. They will all make handsome additions to your garden and give the satisfaction of being something different from the more usually grown yellow-flowered candidates for this time of the year.

One tip worth remembering: cover the plants with netting for a few weeks in October and November, when the buds are setting, to prevent birds pecking them off and ruining your display.

● The Plant Finder *(published by Headmain for the Royal Horticultural Society, £11.99) is available in good bookshops and garden centres, and lists nurseries where the shrubs mentioned above can be found.* Hillier's Manual of Trees and Shrubs *(Publisher I/c, £25 hardback, £14.99 paperback) available from the same sources.*

WEEKEND TIPS

- *Top-dress asparagus beds with well-rotted compost.*
- *Prune vines that are grown as ornamental wall-climbers rather than for their fruit.*
- *Top-dress established lily plants, covering the earth with a mound of well-rotted compost, leaf mould and organic fertiliser.*
- *Spray peach trees against leaf-curl, which has been encouraged by the constant rain. Alternatively, keep the rain off trees with a polythene sheet.*
- *Sow round-seeded varieties of garden peas outside, but ensure first that the ground is not saturated.*
- *Prune autumn-fruiting raspberry canes. Unlike summer-fruiting varieties, which have only the tops cut off their canes, these should be pruned down to the ground.*

GARDEN ANSWERS



STEPHEN ANDERTON
replies to readers' letters

Q Can you suggest suitable vegetables for growing in tubs, pots and grow-bags on a patio? — Alan Jenkins, Otley, West Yorkshire.

A If I were you, I should invest in the largest tubs I felt I could handle comfortably, and forget about pots and growbags. In the tubs, you can put good soil or compost, with old manure at the bottom, all properly drained, which will allow you to grow a much broader range of plants. The bigger the pot the cooler the roots will remain in hot summer weather and the less frequently you will have to water.

You must grow outdoor tomatoes, of course. With some covering against hard frosts, you could grow salad from the beginning to the end of the season. I would have some early potatoes, for the sheer luxury of the flavour, followed by sweetcorn or courgettes.

French beans would succeed on a wigwam or against a wall trellis. You must have apple mint and parsley, too.

Q I have spare ground on which I wish to plant some of the different fir trees which are sold as expensive Christmas trees. What varieties should I look for, where would I find them, and what cultivation do they need? — Carole Galpin, Pathead, Midlothian.

A If you want long-needled trees, you must plant pines. The one commonly sold as a Christmas tree is the native Scots pine, *Pinus sylvestris*, but any of the hardy, vigorous species would do. Many Scots pines have a bluish cast, but if you want a really bright green try *Prunus radiata*.

"Blue" trees, with short needles, include the spruces *Picea pungens glauca* 'Koster' or the fir *Abies concolor* 'Candicans'. But, will you be able to bear to cut them down once you have grown them?

All seed-grown forest conifers vary in habit a great deal, and the density of each specimen will vary. Generally speaking, however, pines are loosest and spruces densest.

The traditional Christmas tree is the Norway spruce, *Picea abies*. Very similar is the Douglas fir, *Pseudotsuga menziesii*, which, I find, holds its needles splendidly. All such forest conifers require is plenty of light and high rainfall. (If hot dry soil is a problem, *Picea omorika* and *Abies grandis* will do better.) There is no need to feed them. Just keep them free of competition from grass for a couple of years until they get going.

Buy them as small trees 6in-12in high to ensure a good straight stem later. There are retail nurseries which specialise in growing pot-grown seedling "plugs" of forest trees. Try Glantlees Nursery at Newton-on-the-Moor, Felton, Northumberland NE65 9LR (0665 570304, fax 0665 570035)

Named varieties, such as 'Koster', will cost much more, and will be found, usually at a larger size, in ornamental nurseries and garden centres. If the trees are for your own use, plant a few each year so that they do not all reach cutting size at once.

● *Readers wishing to have gardening problems answered should write to: Garden Answers, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington St, London E1 9XN. We regret that few personal answers can be given and that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal responsibility. The Times regrets that enclosures accompanying letters cannot be returned.*

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هكذا من الاصل

Enjoy a slice of orang appeal

Brian Jackman reviews one woman's gripping account of life among the great apes in the rainforests of Kalimantan in Borneo

If you thought studying animals in the wild was a glamorous occupation, this cautionary tale by Birutė Galdikas may make you think again.

Galdikas, born in Canada of Lithuanian parents, went to Borneo in 1971 to study orangutans — the last arboreal great apes on earth. Her search took her deep into the tropical rainforests of Kalimantan.

Kalimantan is Borneo's heart of darkness, a trackless wilderness of torrential rain, jungle, rivers as black as tea, and armpit-deep swamps. This was the orang's world, but Galdikis entered it willingly, in spite of the heat and mud, leeches, fire ants, fevers and pit vipers.

Almost at once she became involved in the rehabilitation of captive orangs, destined for a life behind bars. Sugito, whom she bought for $5, was the first orphan to be rescued. Many more were to follow.

But field study was still her main objective. Until her arrival very little was known about the elusive red apes, whose name in Malay means "people of the forest". With Rod, her Canadian husband, she set up her research base and named it Camp Leakey in honour of her mentor, Louis Leakey, the Kenyan anthropologist.

■ REFLECTIONS OF EDEN: My life with the orangutans of Borneo
By Birutė M. F. Galdikas
Victor Gollancz, £16.99.

Galdikas had been fascinated since childhood by human origins, and it was as a student in Los Angeles that she fell under Leakey's spell. Leakey staunchly believed that women were far better suited than men for the arduous business of observing animals in the wild. He had already despatched Jane Goodall to study chimpanzees in Tanzania, and Dian Fossey to live in Rwanda with her gorillas in the mist. Now Leakey, "the Darwin of human evolution", chose Galdikas as the third of his "trimates", whose discoveries would change our perceptions of the world's great apes.

In Borneo, her Dyak assistants were horrified at the thought of Galdikas wandering alone in the forest. They believed that orangs abduct and rape women. But she saw it differently. "A walk in the rainforest," writes Galdikas, "is a walk into the mind of God." Overhead she heard the sonic booms of Concorde; but under the trees, nothing had changed.

Day after day she and Rod trailed orangs. Sometimes, having found them, their only reward was to be bombarded with ape dung. And on top of the physical hardships there were confrontations with the logging industry, which would like to reduce the whole of Borneo to a pile of planks.

Galdikas, in this highly readable account of her life in the forest, shows orangs to be more than mere apes. To her they are kindred spirits, fellow citizens in a shrinking world, who deserve our respect and protection.

Once, wild orangs could be counted in their hundreds of thousands; now fewer than 30,000 remain. "As we watch the great apes slip towards extinction," warns Galdikas, "we are witnessing our own future on an increasingly inhospitable planet."

It is a familiar warning. But seldom has it been spelt out with such impassioned clarity.



Wild orangs used to number hundreds of thousands; now fewer than 30,000 remain

A world too true to be strange

■ THE RIDERS
By Tim Winton
Picador, £14.99

HALF-WAY through this lyrical, painful novel we discover that we are no longer in the love story we at first expected. Instead we are "deep in some big, mad story, a Jonah story, a Sinbad story, a Jesus-and-the-fishermen story, the kind that's too true to be strange, too dreamy to be made up". We are as lost and desperate as the characters on the page as we hope for the same kind of salvation.

Do not read the jacket copy of this book. Perhaps you should stop reading this review right here. Allow yourself to be seduced by the novel's promise of an idyll as Scully labours to improve the dilapidated Irish cottage that he and his wife, Jennifer, bought on first sight, while Jennifer and their daughter Billie tie up loose ends in their native Australia. But when at last Scully meets their plane at Shannon, only Billie disembarks — and she will not speak of her mother, her disappearance, or anything.

The arresting novel is, at one level, a mystery; at another, an adventure. But at its breaking heart it is a fearless exploration of how well we can ever really know each other. Scully's life could never be called orderly — over the past few years his family have travelled all around Europe, with Scully working at whatever he could find to support them — but its still centre is never anything other than Jennifer.

With one simple act she causes her husband to doubt everything he has known to be true. The world, formerly a welcoming place, becomes in one moment as mysterious and threatening as the armed riders who appear one night around the ruined castle below his cottage, their unexplained torchlit presence a testimony to the power of answerless questions.

Tim Winton has already proved himself able to make us believe that an orange box can be rowed across a field of wheat. In this work he achieves an even more difficult feat: he makes us as willing as Billie to clasp her father's hand and go with him anywhere, on any journey, no matter how senseless or terrible.

His delicate and powerful language evokes the world inside Scully's head where there is no alternative but to seek, no hope but to find. Winton is not a great Australian novelist; he is a great novelist, full stop.

ERICA WAGNER

NEW IN PAPERBACK



Shusaku Endo: themes of guilt and redemption

■ THE SEA AND POISON
By Shusaku Endo
Peter Owen, £9.50
A Catholic, Endo's novels revolve around the themes of guilt, obsession and redemption. This early offering, based on fact, is about a doctor who operates experimentally on prisoners of war. He is the silent witness to the suffering of innocents, yet he is powerless to prevent it. Memories of these atrocities return to haunt him in later life, and, tormented by regret, he begins a slow, painful decline. A fine book, given added power by this month's testimonies from former members of the Japanese biological warfare unit.

■ EROS AND PSYCHE
By William Rivière
Sceptre, £5.99
Imogen Scottow brings her infant daughter, whose parentage she will not reveal, to her godmother's Greek island home. Here she meets her lover Dario again, and they negotiate a new relationship aimed at mutual generosity and freedom. Although ostensibly intent on conveying states of mind, Rivière's strong suit is for richly portraying landscape, light, colour, the quality of a place, and it is this that draws the reader on.

■ HESTER: A romance
By Christopher Bigsby
Phoenix, £5.99
Bigsby's novel re-tells *The Scarlet Letter* from another angle and in a modern authorial voice. Hawthorne's plot is swapped around and added to; his eye for intolerance and humbug replaced by more general musings. But the account of Hester's Atlantic crossing, beset by storm and pirates, has a verve missing from the rest of this odd undertaking.



■ ORIENTALISM
By Edward W. Said
Penguin, £8.99
Said, the Palestinian-born professor of English at Columbia University, made his name with this 1978 book, which attacks the stereotyped western vision of the "mysterious" Orient. The origins of so-called Oriental ideas (cruelty, sensuality, despotism) derive, he believes, from imperial power and its subordination of competing cultures. But, as he makes clear in an excellent new Afterword, the end is to challenge not the notion of difference but that difference implies hostility.

● *Jason Cowley, Mary Sullivan, Jake Michie*

Lawyer without a case

Alan Dershowitz is probably America's best-known lawyer. His clients tend to be rich and famous, like Claus von Bulow (acquitted) and Mike Tyson (not so acquitted). Inevitably, he is on the O. J. Simpson defence team. *The Advocate's Devil* is his first novel.

It is, of course, a courtroom drama. Who better, you might think, to provide the authentic whiff of forensic battle than a man who has been at the centre of so many high-profile contests himself? You would be wrong. It is not that it is dull, or poorly written, or lacks plot. But it is, given the real-life flamboyance of the writer, lacklustre — a courtroom drama short on drama.

Attorney Abe Ringel is hired to defend a nationally famous sporting hero charged with rape in a hotel room (sound familiar?). Joe Campbell is a charismatic basketball star, not short of female pursuers: the alleged victim, on her own admission, initiated the sexual manoeuvres that were intended to lead to bed. At the last moment, she claimed, because of something he said, she forcefully changed her mind and unambiguously called on him to stop. He did not. The case, at first, seems a sure winner, especially as the woman has a previous record of falsely accusing a man of sexual assault. Gradually, though, to Ringel's dismay, pieces of evidence start to suggest Joe Campbell to be both a liar to his own attoney and, possibly, a rapist.

Much of *The Advocate's Devil* is about a trial lawyer's professional ethics. How far does the duty of the advocate to secure his client's acquittal extend when he believes — but does not know for sure — that the defendant is guilty and a potential threat to women?

Ringel's ethical-legal dilemmas are described with clarity and conviction, but it seems as though Dershowitz is more interested in the issues than in his cast. Ringel is a widower, who still feels guilty about his unfaithfulness to his wife shortly before her death. His mentor is a dying lawyer who dispenses advice in Delphic riddles; the scenes between the two men are mawkish.

The characters are portrayed functionally rather than with depth or subtlety. That would not matter if plot and action were more lively. But the outcome of the trial is predictable, as is the post-trial denouement. The book is disappointing not because it is bad, but because Dershowitz appeared to have all the credentials for writing an exceptional book, and hasn't. But then, when was a great lawyer also a great novelist?

MARCEL BERLINS

■ THE ADVOCATE'S DEVIL
By Alan M. Dershowitz
Headline, £16.99

Sex and the Empire

Since the British Empire was largely the creation of lonely men a long way from their families, sex flourished deliciously. The outposts of the Empire — in Sir Richard Burton's "Sotadic Zone" of androgyny, pederasty and perversion — were places where Britannia's finest sons could look for sexual pleasures unobtainable at home.

Britons were often slaves to their passions. Consider these words of an army officer, cited in Anton Gill's book: "I prefer to satisfy myself with a . . . lady of my own class; but in the absence of the best I gladly take . . . prostitutes of all classes and colours, men, boys and animals, melons and masturbation".

The officer was expressing a preference that was as much sexual as political. The view taken of sex by colonial officers was a code of ethics that regarded all working-class women as sexually available and an envy of the size (in racial mythology) of the black man's penis.

Underlying all matters, however, was a deep-set insecurity, revealed in a letter from Lord Hamilton to Lord Curzon (then Viceroy of India), in which he described "the craze of white women for running after black men". The coloniser's sexuality was often distastefully expressed in deed as well, as when General Sir Hector MacDonald, Commander-in-Chief of Ceylon, was caught in 1902 "*in flagrante delicto* with no fewer than four Sinhalese boys in a railway carriage at Kandy".

To arrive at a more complex understanding of sex and Empire than that offered by Gill, you could of course immerse yourself in Edward Said's *Orientalism* and Elaine Showalter's *Sexual Anarchy*. But where Gill scores — if that is the appropriate word — is in the bubbling richness of his anecdotes and the simplicity of his message. There was, not to put too fine a point on it, a lot of sex in the British Empire. And melons were not the only forbidden fruit.

TUNKU VARADARAJAN

■ RULING PASSIONS
By Anton Gill
BBC Books, £15.99

TIMES BOOKS

THURSDAY

Peter Ackroyd on the beggars' bard, John Gay; plus Rachel Cusk reviews the new Hilary Mantel

Vision, see page 6

The serpents in paradise



Goa: the idyll is threatened

Clive Anderson's latest television offering was not originally called *Our Man In . . .* at all, but *Trouble in Paradise*. The series' name was changed when it occurred to the BBC that it might have been tricky to secure permission to film in some of the countries using a name which blatantly suggested that things were not as marvellous as they seemed.

But *trouble in paradise is the series' raison d'être*. The six modern "paradises" — Goa, the Masai Mara, Dominica, Hawaii, Timberlands (Oregon, USA) and, of course, Havana — were all chosen in the knowledge that the serpent was not just hissing about on the threshold, but was usually propping up the bar with a piña colada in hand.

Of all the different challenges faced by these latter-day idylls — from communism to the lumber industry — the one which invariably crops up is the corrosive effect of international tourism. As Anderson poignantly remarks of Hawaii, where today only between 1 and 4 per cent of the population are full-blooded Hawaiians, "so many Americans have come here to get away from it all that they have brought it all with them."

Poignant is not a word which you would normally associate with Anderson. In his introduction he declares that although all the films involved going to faraway places, they were not intended to be travelogues, but a means of examining some "serious issues, in more or less exotic locations, and having some fun along the way". If the accompanying book is anything to go by, however, this is nonetheless exactly what they are: travelogues, but travelogues with attitude.

Our Man In . . . has an engaging style, some terrible puns, and some marvellously scatalogical jokes. As always with the BBC it is beautifully produced and illustrated — so much so that it is tempting to agree with Anderson that for all his efforts most people will probably buy this book for the photographs.

KATIE HICKMAN

■ OUR MAN IN . . .
By Clive Anderson
BBC Books, £16.99

There are some pursuits which can never be rendered, well, *sexy*. John le Carré will never set his hero on the far end of platform one at Crewe station with a train spotter's notebook in his hand, nor will Tom Clancy give us a submarine commander who builds Airfix kits in his spare time. Which gives those who write about computer crime something of a problem.

Had the heroes of *Masters of Deception* broken into billion-dollar American companies using machine guns or gelignite, there would be a natural excitement in the tale. Sneaking into the Bank of America from your walk-up tenement block in Brooklyn using a tatty computer and a modem does not have the same oomph, somehow.

Eli and Mark, and half a dozen others, were whey-faced and socially inept teenagers, brighter than the other kids in their inner-city classes, who had a way with computers. They managed, through nights spent staring into monitor screens, to learn how to break into other computers. They shared the knowledge over the Net. They formed gangs, started cyberspace spats with other gangs. They stole a little free telephone time, crashed a couple of systems and, rarely, sold the information to real criminals.

The secret service discovered their crimes, chased them, caught them, prosecuted them. A couple served short jail sentences: all of them became heroes to other whey-faced teenagers.

Unfortunately Joshua Quittner and Michelle Slatalla do not seem to have enough faith in their intimately researched story to tell it straight. Instead, they come on with a stylistic cross between Hunter S. Thompson and a newly ordained vicar trying to curry favour in a youth club by talking a breathless teenspeak. And, in their self-aggrandising description of themselves as the Masters of Deception they have fallen rather too hard for their own hype.

JOHN DIAMOND

Gang battles on the Net

■ MASTERS OF DECEPTION
By Joshua Quittner and Michelle Slatalla
Vintage, £6.99

■ THE BEST OF SHERLOCK HOLMES 2
By Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, starring Sir John Gielgud and Sir Ralph Richardson
Hodder Headline, £7.99
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■ JUST SO STORIES
By Rudyard Kipling, read by Michael Bentine
Enchanted Tapes, £6.99
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AUDIOBOOKS

■ GREAT CRIMES AND TRIALS OF THE 20TH CENTURY
Read by Robert Powell
Speaking Volumes, £7.99.
THE unsensational presentation often sounds little more than a catalogue of grisly crimes, although it is lifted by contemporary interviews with participants in the investigations which serve to illuminate the horror. Clearly designed to pander to our fascination with crime, this series of 13 tapes will be accompanied by a part-work called *Murder Casebook*.

■ BACK TO BASICS
By Arthur Daley, read by George Cole
Reed Audio, £7.99
ARFUR'S state of the nation address is witty, dodgy and conceited. His remedies include a canter through the history of Britain in the style of *1066 and All That* as written by a second-hand car dealer. He takes on the Citizen's Charter, Europe, and the monarchy (it needs privatising for the *annus bigackers*). Daley's *Back to Basics* suffers a similar fate to John Major's original campaign: it may look good on the drawing board but palls in the execution.

RUSSELL TWISK

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4	GEOFF HAMILTON'S COTTAGE GARDENS **Geoff Hamilton** *(BBC)*	£18.99	4	4
5	WRITING HOME **Alan Bennett** *(Faber)*	£17.50	8	15
6	THE FINAL CUT **Michael Dobbs** *(HarperCollins)*	£14.99	5	2
7	THE CRUSADES **Terry Jones** *(BBC)*	£17.99	7	4
8	THE STATE WE'RE IN **Will Hutton** *(Cape)*	£16.99	6	2
9	WINGS **Danielle Steel** *(Bantam)*	£15.99	0	1
10	LONG WALK TO FREEDOM **Nelson Mandela** *(Little Brown)*	£20	10	7

PAPERBACK

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4	AN IMAGINATIVE EXPERIENCE **Mary Wesley** *(Black Swan)*	£5.99	3	5
5	THE VAMPIRE LESTAT **Anne Rice** *(Futura)*	£5.99	5	2
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PRIMROSE HILL NW1. A delightful early Victorian house situated in Chalcot Crescent adjacent to Primrose Hill Park. 4 beds, 2 baths, 3 receps. Excellent kitchen. garden. F/Hold. OIRO £600,000. Sole Agents David Birkett Estate Agents 0171 722 3094.

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MAGICAL SW18 Vict family hse 3 bed., lge grnd Lrge £114,950 Squire Radcliffe 071 381 3883

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W. DULWICH
F/H house. 3 bed. Edwardian terrace in quiet street. Many original features. Good decoration throughout. Fitted kitchen/breakfast room, two w/c's, bathroom, 2 receptions, utility room. Nice garden front and rear. Patio. GCH, new roof.
Freehold £142,500
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CITY EC2 Pied-A-Terre. 2 bed Mansion flat. New decor. £72k. 071 480 6818.

COMMUTERS.... We have a wide range of flats for sale in the City from £56,000. For our February list contact Frank Harris & Co City Office 0171 600 7000

MOORFIELDS EC1 Period warehouse for conversion. Floors of 2,280 sq ft for sale. Within conservation area. 071 729 3859 T

PRICE REDUCTION Small style Barbican studio just reduced to £66,000. Frank Harris & Co City Office 0171 600 7000

WAPPING 2 bed, 2 bath warehouse conversion. 1600 sq ft. Wood firs £155k 071 480 6818

WAPPING 1 bed. warehouse conversion. Balcony. River views. £144k. 071 480 6818

WESTMINSTER Ashley Gardens. SW1. Large 5 bedroomed basement flat in superb decorative order. lounge 21x14, kitchen. bathroom. entry phone. 24hr porterage. Share of freehold. £174,500 to include carpets & curtains. Tel 071 9766040 or 0585 554068

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77, Buckingham Gate SW1
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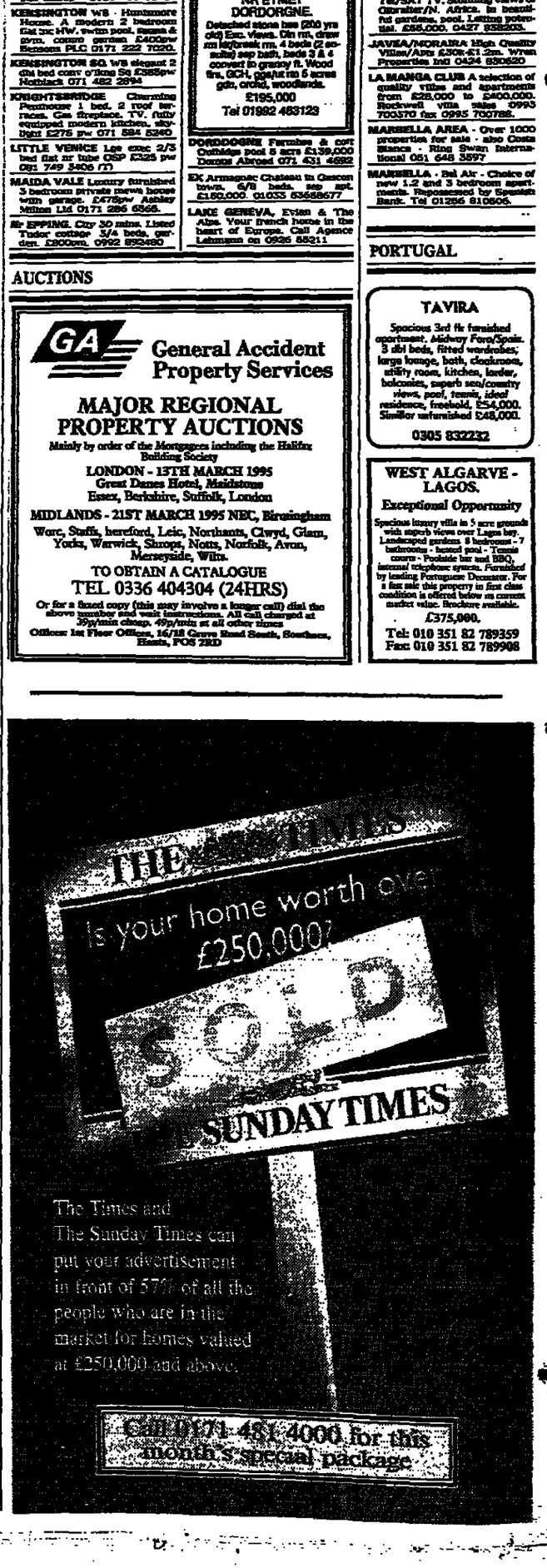
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Builders welcome the new Stone Age

Quarries are reopening to satisfy demand, says

Alice Thomson

Real stone has had a rough time this century. First everyone wanted red brick, then concrete, steel, pebble dash and glass. Inside houses, the story has been the same. Kitchens have been smothered with plastic-topped tables, wooden units and tiled surfaces. Floors have gone from carpet to cork to wood to Seagrass (a stone floor was considered too cold). Limestone fireplaces have been boarded up or replaced by wooden or wrought-iron affairs.

But, having spent years in the wilderness, stone is back, and suddenly everyone is becoming Fred Flintstone, thinking of a thousand and one ways to use the original natural product.

Fed up with cracks, leaks and threadbare carpets, stone is seen as the ultimate durable. Like an Armani suit, it gets better with the wearing and is never brash. New five-star hotels no longer want their guests to sink into a red-carpeted hall when they can glide over granite, and it is likely checking-in will no longer be at a mahogany counter but at a limestone ledge. Marble baths are an option for the first time since Cleopatra.

It is not only Armani wearers who can afford real stone. Stone has become cheaper with new extraction methods, and modern techniques mean that even marble can be bent into extraordinary shapes. Local authority planners are now insisting that houses be built of local, natural materials, which usually means stone if you are living in areas such as the Cotswolds. Even shopping malls are discarding coloured concrete pedestrian areas for solid stone.

On a smaller scale, Habitat and Conran are beginning to sell limestone tables and desks. And farmers, with a little encouragement from the subsidy system, are going back to dry-stone walls. Stone restorers no longer fill in cracks with concrete but match up old samples with new quarries.

Next weekend sees the first Real Stone Show at Wembley, west London. Dubbed "The Dawning of a New Stone Age", 3,000 people have already bought tickets, including building contractors, stonemasons, stone doctors, sculptors, restorers and local government planning architects. There is even a magazine, *The Stone Specialist*, for an industry in Britain that is worth £400 million a year.

Initially, the revival faced problems because Britain had closed many of its quarries and, often, the survivors had resorted to producing reconstituted stone, which involved hauling out the stone, smashing it into tiny pieces and moulding it back together again.

People who wanted real stone had to go to Portugal, Spain and France rather than to, say, the Cotswolds or Scotland. But now quarries of all types, from slate to marble, have reopened in Britain.

Ian Bond, a farmer at Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire, is one of a group of new quarry owners opening up in the South. There had always been an old quarry on his estate but it was closed in the early 1950s and used as a rubbish tip until local masons and builders asked him to consider reopening it because they couldn't find any stone to match existing buildings in the villages. First he had to get planning permission for the six-acre site, and then find someone who knew how to run a quarry. Four years later, Stanleys Quarry employs eight local men, one full-time stonemason, and a manager, Graham Mayo.

There are four beds of Cotswold stone, all from the Jurassic Age, but only two are quarried, one producing a mature cheddar-cheese colour with a blue vein through it, and the other a harder, marbled Wensleydale colour. People can wash over them with blue or green tints, but this makes quarriers wince.

"We submit samples and the designers say they want the colour changed," Mr Mayo says. "We have to explain that stone is not 'made' and that they can't have a bit of pink here and a bit of grey there. Stone comes out of the ground as it is, although we can tone down the colour with coffee or cow dung."

Quarry regulations are strict, the saws are vast and nothing gets wasted, even the spoil is sold for roads. At one end of the quarry, workers smash smaller stones for dry-walling; in the middle, mechanical diggers extract hunks of raw stone; and at the end, rough bricks are chopped, and saws slice off two-inch thick paving stones. Elsewhere, plans for new projects are poured over.

John Ballantyne, a stonemason for 35 years who did a six-year apprenticeship, can make almost anything. "Stone balls and ramp-and-twist staircases are the hardest, because there is no room for error," he says. "Making birdbaths and sundials is boring, but I enjoy a good lintel or fireplace."

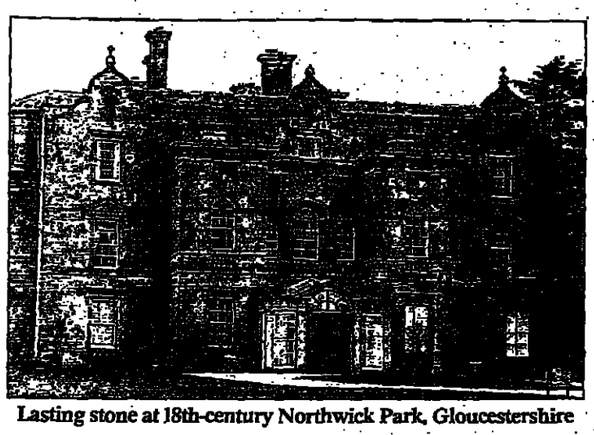
Mr Bond, who has been told that there is about 200 years worth of quarrying in his seam says: "The quarry doesn't overlook anyone's land and is surrounded by trees, so it is considered environmentally friendly by locals, who use the "Campden" stone on barns and for new housing estates because it mellows quickly and blends in."

It has taken him a while to break even but now he can't keep up with demand, and had a £400,000 turnover last year.

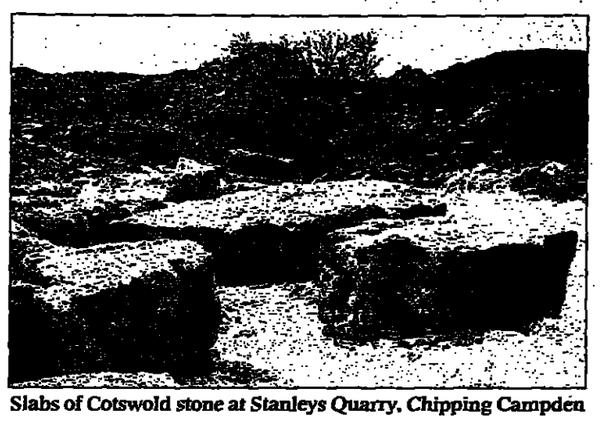
"We did the pillars for the Hyde Park gates for the Queen Mother's birthday present in 1993, we have done floors in Scotland, and hope to move into the American market, so that the tourists can take back a piece of the Cotswolds as a fireplace.

"This particular stone has been used on St Paul's Cathedral and at several country estates, so we are often asked to do renovation work.

"But quarrying can still be an uphill battle. The county council still insists on shipping in stone from Portugal for kerbstones."

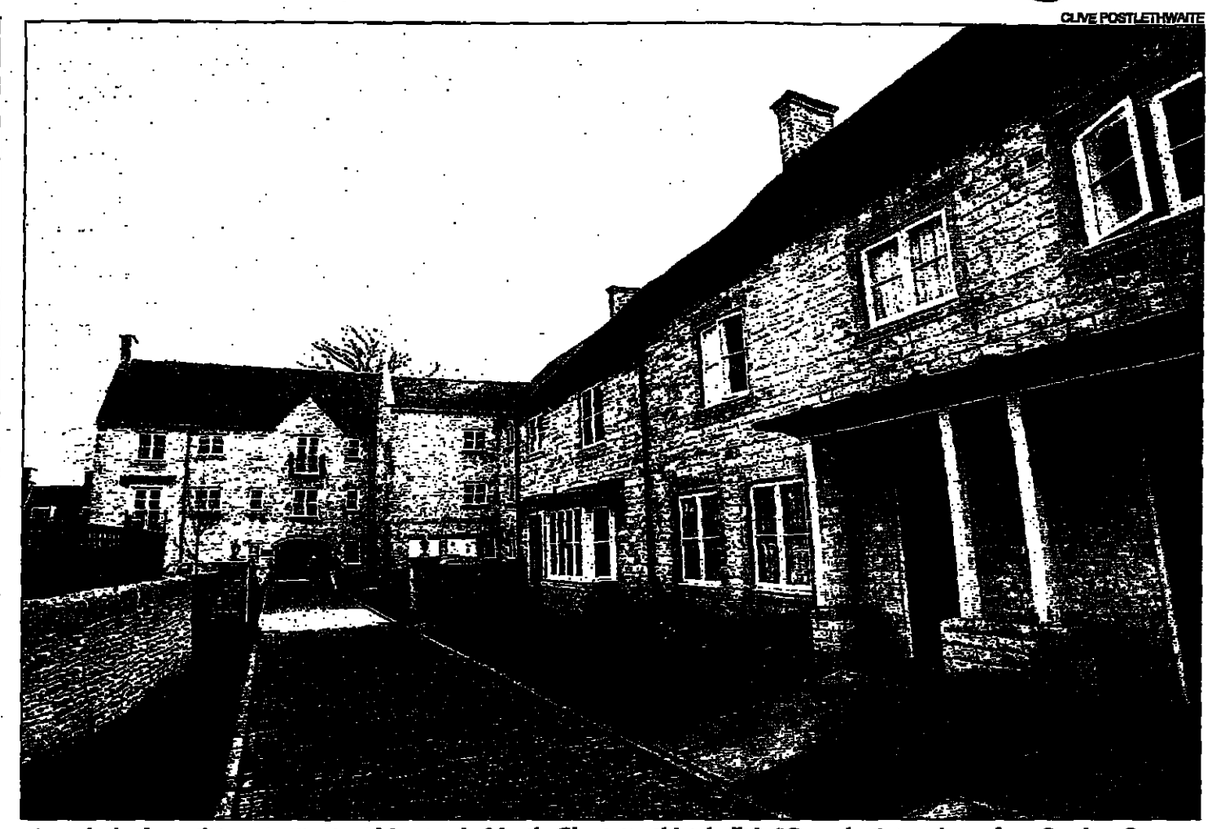


Lasting stone at 18th-century Northwick Park, Gloucestershire



Slabs of Cotswold stone at Stanleys Quarry, Chipping Campden

CLIVE POSTLETHWAITE



Award-winning retirement cottages at Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire, built in "Campden" stone hewn from Stanleys Quarry

STONE FACTS

☐ Stanleys Quarry, Westington Hill, Chipping Campden, Gloucestershire (01386 700667).

☐ The Stone Federation, 18 Mansfield Street, London W1M 9FG (0171-580 5404) can provide a list of quarries and stone manufacturers.

☐ *The Stone Specialist* is printed monthly by the publishers Herald House (01903 821082). The annual subscription is £29.

☐ "The First Natural Stone Show" is at the Wembley Exhibition Centre, west London, from Feb 28 to Mar 2, 10am-5pm daily. For further information ring 01844 342894.



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BOWERDEAN ST, SW6 £345,000
On the Peterborough Estate, a well presented house with many original features. 3 beds, bath, double recep, kit/b'fast rm, garden, cellar. Freehold
FULHAM: 0171-731 4223



SUTHERLAND ST, SW1 £525,000
A well-planned, spacious house with a self-contained garden flat. 3 beds, dressing rm, 2 baths, 2 receps, kit. Flat: 2 rooms, kit, bath, gdn. Freehold
BELGRAVIA: 0171-730 9854

RENTALS

KENSINGTON COURT, W8 £525 p.w.
A newly decorated and furnished 1st floor flat close to the amenities of High Street Kensington. 3 beds (2 dble), bath, clkrm, 1/2 receps, kit, lift. Furnished

CHARLES II PLACE, SW3 £600 p.w.
An immaculate house on 3 floors with a garage. 3 beds (2 dble), 2 baths (1 en suite), clkrm, recep, kit/b'fast rm, garage/b'fast rm. Furnished

CENTRAL LONDON: 0171-491 4311

DALEHAM GARDENS, NW3 £375 p.w.
A newly refurbished flat in a converted house with a private roof terrace. 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. (1 en suite), reception room, kitchen. Furnished

FINCHLEY ROAD, NW8 £900 p.w.
A newly refurbished apartment in a smart portered block opposite St John's Wood underground. 4 beds, 3 baths, double recep, kitchen, parking. Furnished

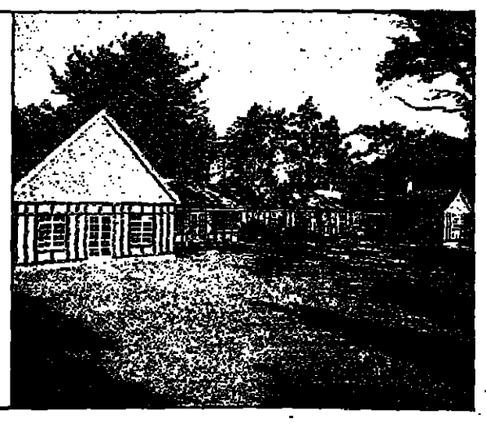
NORTH LONDON: 0171-722 3336

RIDGWAY, SW19 £235 p.w.
An impressive ground floor apartment in a prestigious modern development. 2 beds, 2 baths with showers, kit/b'fast rm, parking, gardens. Furnished

VINEYARD HILL RD, SW19 £450 p.w.
A charming Edwardian house on 2 floors. 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 receptions, kitchen with adjoining breakfast rm, cellar, off-street parking. Unfurnished

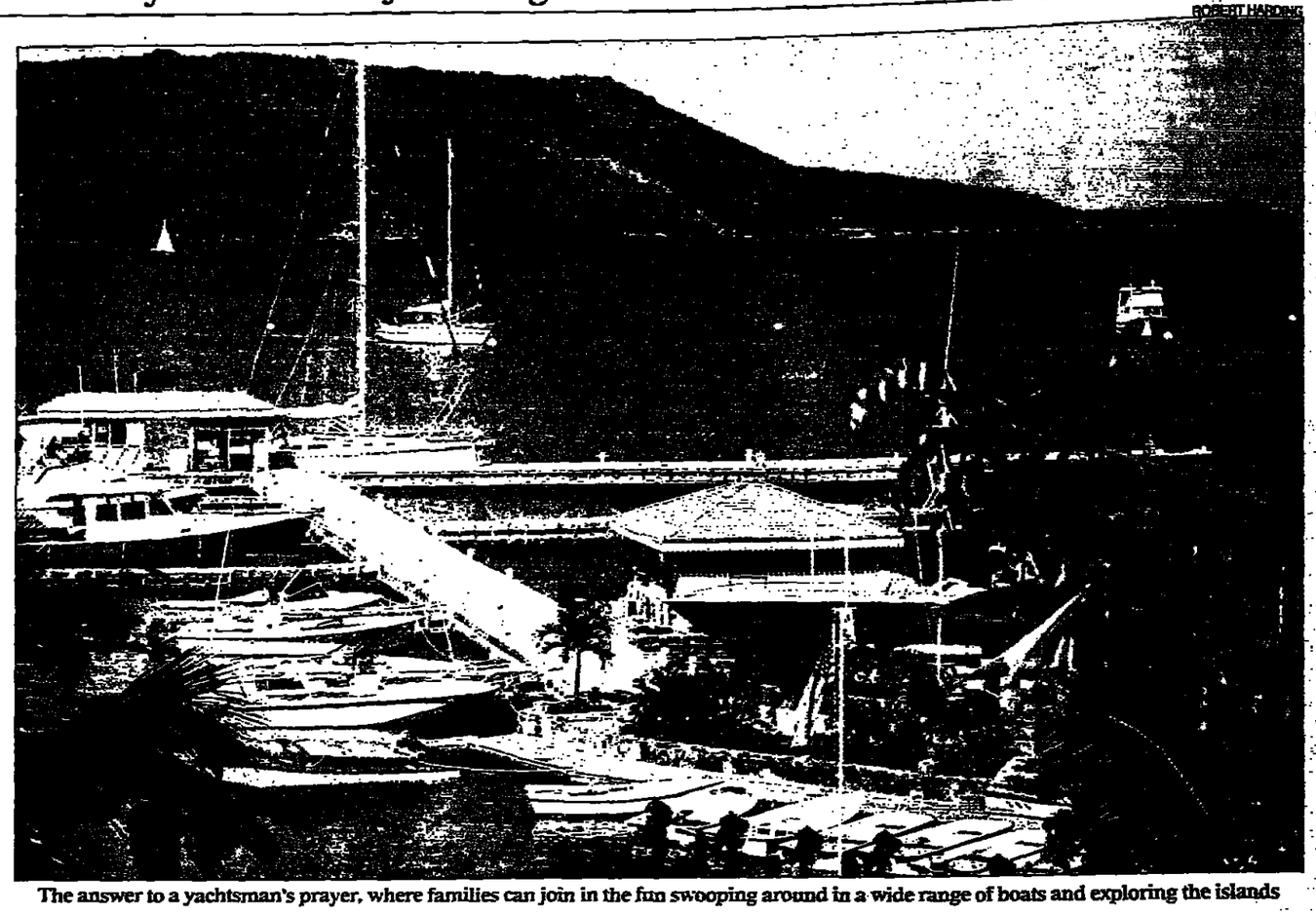
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Set in 3½ acres of secluded grounds, an unusual single storey house. 4/5 beds, 3 baths, 2 shower rms, recep hall, 4 receps, kit/b'fast rm, conservatory, swimming pool, garaging, games rm.
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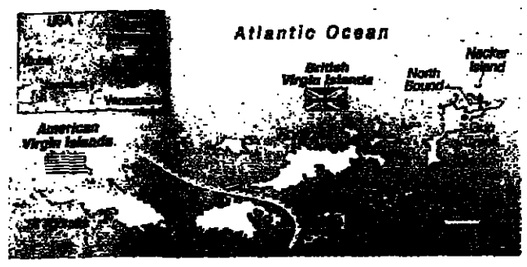


CARIBBEAN: **Libby Purves** and her family discover a yachting Eden in the British Virgin Islands

The sweet life at Bitter End


ROBERT HARDING

The answer to a yachtsman's prayer, where families can join in the fun swooping around in a wide range of boats and exploring the islands



The inter-island plane was late; we had spent a long, stranded afternoon on Antigua being overcharged for vile Jamaican pop and nagged to have our hair plaited. At last we flew on to Beef Island, failed to land in a freak storm, and were taken back 200 miles to Antigua, where everybody, from immigration officials to hoteliers, was in a uniformly filthy mood following a national anti-tax demonstration. In our emergency hotel, we huddled on plastic sheets with sweating children and spent the small hours mending the lavatory.

This is not, you understand, a complaint. Things could not have turned out better. By the time we reached our real destination — the Bitter End Yacht Club on Virgin Gorda — we had been reminded of everything that can go wrong with Caribbean holidays, from hot, concrete hotels to surly put-upon locals, wannabe Shirley Valentines snogging on the beach with big reggae boys, and pelicans despondently fishing up condoms. We had been reminded that you can't confidently order a holiday in paradise, and probably don't deserve one.

But Eden did, after all, exist. The British Virgin Islands, a scatter of volcanic green and grey, have been lucky compared to their American-owned neighbours. Nearby St Thomas has bloomed into rackety nightlife and petty crime; next to it, mountainous Tortola and Virgin Gorda have slept on, rustic and friendly as the west of Ireland.

You can walk into Mr Harrigan's village shop in Gun Creek for a packet of crisps, and he will chat to you and show you his ancestors' private all-Harrigan graveyard on the waterfront, for all the world as if you were a fellow human and not a unit of tourism. Waiting at Beef Island airport you can dump your luggage, greet the airport hen and her chicks, turn left past the airport goat and her kids, and blow along the beach for a tortilla at De Loose Mongoose. I could drift around Tortola quite happily for days.

But this time, pale and weary from a Suffolk winter, we withdrew from real life and never strayed far from Bitter End. This group of villas around a clubhouse overlooks the ring of islands which shelter North Sound, Gorda. You can get there only by boat.

In 1975 Myron Hokin, a Chicago industrialist, bought the beach for his family holidays and he still oversees every detail himself: the food is straightforward, the decor amiably oddball. The black, piratical iron lanterns throw just enough of a dramatic gleam into the deep-brooding tropical night, and a whale skeleton is arranged, as if by accident, on the white sand of the foreshore just to make you feel good.

The resort, much visited by long-distance boats, claims a "yacht club atmosphere", which is confusing to anyone used to the smell of mildewed oilskins which constitutes a British yacht club's atmosphere. They must mean the American sort. But, upmarket though it is, its direction is childlike.

Bitter End's mission is, without incongruous luxury, to fulfil the daydreams of sailors. A hundred boats, most of them provided free within the holiday package, lie waiting. There is a sailing school if you want it; even if you don't, kindly boatmen put the sails up for you.

In the shelter of the Sound we swooped around on Sunfish, windsurfers, kayaks, keelboats, Lasers and outboard dories, landing occasionally at Saba islet for a drink with Ed Kilbride's parrot in the front room of his bar.

To go further, we chartered a Freedom 30 and sailed out on to the long Atlantic waves; we took the free daily snorkel trips to float wonderingly over fine coral at Necker and Anegada. A few painted Alan-Whicker women were observed to lie on the beach all week in an obvious trade-off for their husbands' ecstatic boating orgy; but we could hardly keep still for excitement, and did everything.

There are air-conditioned villas, with telephones, overlooking the anchorage, which some visitors demand. But, knowing a bunch of romantic Britishers when they see one coming, the management put us out on the point by the open sea, in a wooden cabin set high among the trees. There, where the northeast trades help the silent ceiling fans to cool the quiet, shuttered rooms, we lay in hammocks under the palm-thatch of our balcony at dusk, smelling hot rope and hot decking and watching the empty ocean over which Columbus came.

It says a lot for the peace of the BVIs that we were able to feel the past. The Caribbean is as much a part of European history as Venice: we reflected on what wealth the Old World explorers — and planters and slavers and pirates — found here, and on their legacies good and evil.

We were glad we took the children. Friends had said we were mad, that Caribbean holidays were for grown-ups. We found that, for school-age children, it was one of those expensive treats that will be worth it all their lives, fixing images, smells and sounds to bring geography and history to life.

We met pelicans, iguanas, turtles; clambered through granite caves, swam in the warm vivid ocean with the parrotfish and watched the sun go down with a green tropical flash.

Idly, I told the children what our friends had said. Ten-year-old Rose exploded: "What sort of twisted mind," she inquired, "would go to a pirate island and leave their child behind?" A deep question. Inner child and outer children all did well. We are saving for the next time.

Getting there

☐ The author was a guest of the BWIA airline and of the Bitter End Yacht Club. The club (UK telephone 0800 591897) offers packages from £2,170 for two people. Discounts of 25 per cent for families operate in summer.

☐ British Virgin Islands Tourist Board, 110 St Martin's Lane, London WC2 N4DY (0171-240-4259).

☐ Other tour operators offering holidays to the British Virgin Island include Caribtours (0171-581 3517) and the BVI Club (0932 220477).

CARIBBEAN TRAVEL TIPS

☐ Caribtours (0171 581 3517) offers holidays in Barbados, Anguilla, St Lucia, Grenada, the Grenadines, St Kitts & Nevis and the Virgin Islands. Prices range from £616 per person for seven nights (low season) at the 4-star Rex Halcyon Cove Hotel in Antigua (accommodation only) with return flights from Gatwick, to £5,640 per person for seven nights next Christmas for a suite at the 5-star Cap Juluca resort in Anguilla, including breakfast and return flights from Gatwick.

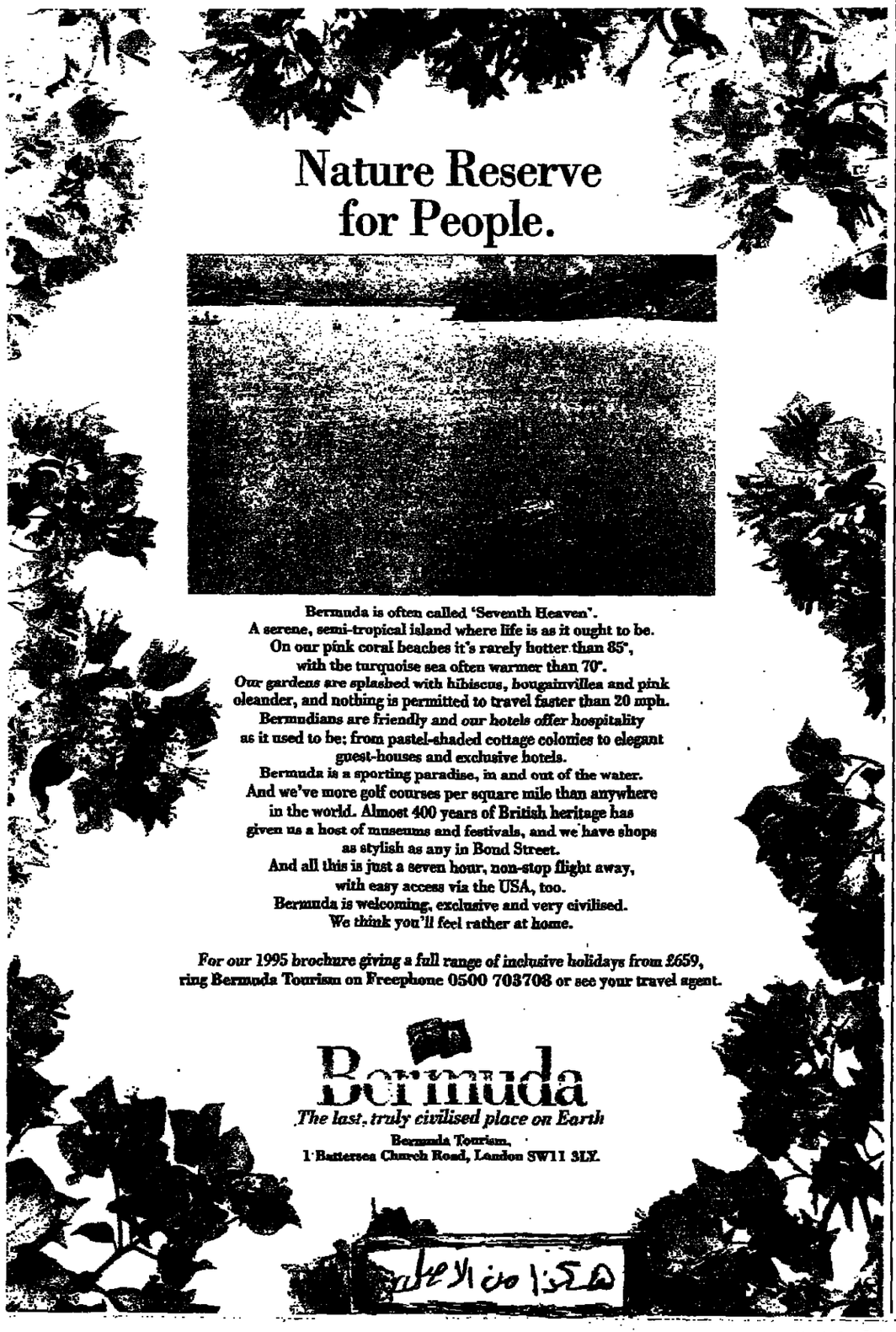
☐ Packages to St Lucia offered by Caribtours include six nights at the 4-star Eastwinds Inn for £1,098 per person, with all meals and return flights from Gatwick. Between February 28 and April 7, one child under 12 sharing with two adults gets free accommodation, meals and drinks. Flights from £410.

☐ Caribbean Connection (01244 341131) offers a sports and cultural festival on Barbados in March and April, including opera, horse-racing, cricket, yachting and polo. Prices from £817 per person for seven nights, including B&B at the 3-star Buccaneer Bay hotel and return flights.

☐ Abercrombie & Kent (0171 730 9600) has holidays at the Montpelier Plantation Inn on Nevis from £936 (low season) to £1,987 (Christmas) per person for seven nights B&B, including flights.

CHRISTINE WHEELER

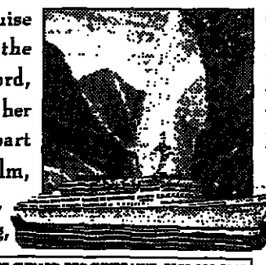




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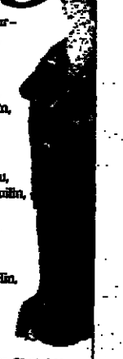
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WEEKEND BREAK: Skiing in France, sightseeing in Geneva — what better way to celebrate one's 60th birthday?

Into the Vallée on wobbly knees

In retrospect it was probably not a good idea, but it seemed so at the time. My 60th birthday was imminent and, although I could not hope to match the achievement of a younger colleague who marked his half century by climbing Kilimanjaro, I felt I should at least make some attempt to deny the passing years.

The opportunity presented itself with an invitation to spend a weekend in Geneva. That was not in itself much of a challenge, but the itinerary included a day across the border at Chamonix, and the chance to ski the famous Vallée Blanche from the Aiguille du midi on the Mont Blanc massif.

The Vallée is not a difficult run. Much of it consists of broad, open snowfields interspersed with a few narrow gullies. The most alarming feature is the presence of crevasses, indicating that it is a huge glacier. On sunny days, such as we enjoyed, these can be spotted and avoided, though our guide warned that it was no place for beginners in poor visibility.

The Vallée may not be hard to negotiate, but it *is* long: about 24 kilometres (15 miles) from the pinnacles of the Aiguille to the valley floor. It is slightly less distance to the top of the railway which shuttles down to Chamonix: we were obliged to complete our journey by train because snow on the lower slopes was becoming scarce.

The top of the run is also formidably high at 3,790 metres (about 11,550ft) and is reached by two spectacular cable-car ascents. The first phase of the descent is down a vertiginous series of steps, carrying skis and clutching a rope handrail. By the time we reached a flattish bit where we could attach skis, I was suffering from a mixture of fright and altitude sickness.

For the remainder of the run I was decidedly wobbly-kneed and, despite the kindness of my companions and the felicitations when we finally reached base, I felt I had made a bit of an ass of myself. Moral: silly old fools, even if they imagine themselves to be experienced skiers, should not go most of the way to the top of the highest mountain in Europe without any practice or acclimatisation, clamp on skis for the first time for two years and expect to do themselves or the mountain justice.

Geneva itself, however, was a surprise and a delight. Its reputation has suffered from the fact that it is Swiss and must, therefore, be staid and boring. Foreigners tend to see it as distinguished for nothing more than the manufacture of chocolates and expensive timepieces; as the home of an extravagant international bureaucracy; and as a prohibitively expensive watering hole for tax exiles and jet-setters.

But such assumptions are wrong. Although small by contemporary standards, it has a long and fascinating history, from its beginnings as a Celtic settlement, a Roman fortress and one of the earliest and most powerful bishoprics of an expanding Christendom.

In the 16th century it transformed itself into the centre of the Reformation and proclaimed itself a republic, the "Protestant Rome", the home of Calvin and of many other refugees from religious and intellectual persecution. With the French empire on its doorstep, it remained persistently at odds with both monarchies and dictatorships, described by Napoleon as "that city where they know English too well". Among its later temporary denizens was Vladimir Ilyich Lenin.

A handsome, relaxed city with a heritage of splendid buildings, Geneva does justice to its glorious lakeside setting. It has some fine churches, nearly 30 museums and galleries, an opera house, the world-famous Orchestre de la Suisse Romande and a literary tradition that includes Byron, Victor Hugo, Balzac, Alexander Dumas and George Sand.

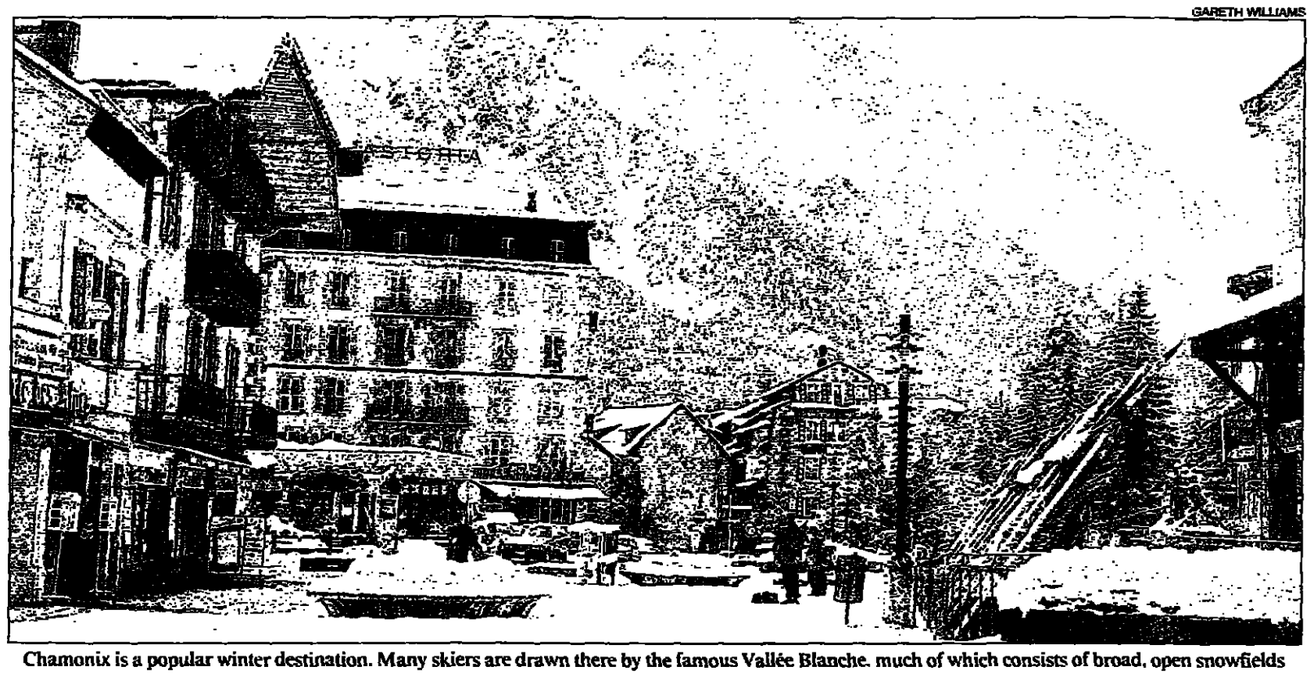
As "the world's smallest metropolis" — with only 175,000 inhabitants, although many more thousands commute from neighbouring towns and villages and from across the French border — it is ideal for walking. As well as the lakeside, there are numerous parks and gardens and, perhaps best of all, the delightful old town which surrounds the cathedral, long stripped of its treasures by Protestant zealots.

For me the only blot is the presence of the United Nations, housed in a complex of bulky modern buildings on a hillside overlooking the lake. All those international civil servants with their tax-free salaries and lavish expense accounts may have done wonders for the local economy, but the sceptic must question their function. What do all those people housed within the vast headquarters of the International Labour Organisation actually do?

Surprisingly, Geneva is not as expensive as its reputation suggests. There are, of course, luxury shops selling watches and jewellery, but there are also street markets and second-hand bookshops. You do not *have* to sample five different varieties of Iranian caviar at the Caviar House, as we were invited to do; there are plenty of reasonably priced small restaurants, grills and bistros. Our hosts, predictably perhaps, organised tours of Vacheron & Constantin, the oldest watchmakers in the city, and of a chocolate factory — but you do not have to do either. Nor do you *have* to ski the Vallée Blanche.

JOHN YOUNG

GARETH WILLIAMS



Chamonix is a popular winter destination. Many skiers are drawn there by the famous Vallée Blanche, much of which consists of broad, open snowfields

Where to stay

☐ The author was a guest of the Hôtel du Rhône and of Swissair.

☐ Standard rate for single occupancy at the Hôtel du Rhône is SFr340 a night (about £180), but a number of special deals are available, including a four-day ski package for SFr990 (about £515), single or double B&B. Ski excursions to Chamonix and other resorts SF35 (£18) a day. Call Freefone 0800 282684.

☐ Swissair economy class returns London to Geneva are from £108 midweek and £119 at weekends. For details call 0171 434 7200.

☐ The Geneva Tourist Office, PO Box 5230, CH-1211 Geneva 11, has details of other packages: two nights in a two-star hotel with breakfast, taxes and service, and two days' free travel on public transport starts from SFr110 (£60) a person.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page *21*

FLUBDUB
(b) A splendid 19th-century slang word vividly expressing bombastic language without much content. Goes with *flimflam* (humbug, idle talk). "Did you hear him on *NewsNight*? Just the same old politician's flubdub."

OBAMBULATE
(a) To wander or walk about in an aimless fashion. The locomotion of a male spouse in a DIY shed, or of a female spouse in a department store.

"For heaven's sake, where has your father got off to now? He has gone obambulating again, just when it's time to go home."

HAMADRYAD
(b) This word has several different meanings. In its original Greek it meant a nymph who lived in trees. It has been adopted to mean a venomous Indian snake and an Abyssinian baboon. So you can use the word to insult a woman, but, when taken to task, explain that you were using it in its nymphal sense. Or vice versa.

RAMPALLION
(a) A bold, forward, rampant, or wanton woman; a woman who romps. An Elizabethan term. So Falstaff to Mistress Quickly in *Henry IV, Part II, Act II, Scene I*: "Away, you scullion; you rampallion; you fustilarian! I'll tickle your catastrophe." A *fustilarian* is a *fusty-lugs* or beastly, sluttish woman. A *catastrophe* in Falstaffian slang is a posterior.

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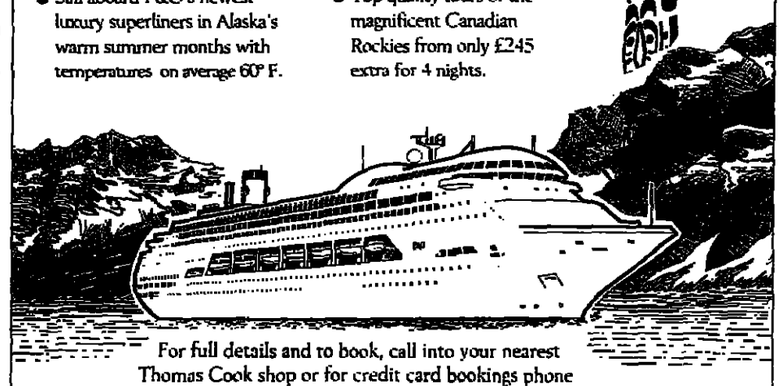
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PORTUGAL: A journey through the Douro Valley from the bustle of Oporto to the peace of inland vineyards

A haven steeped in port

Oporto is a city seemingly designed by drunkards. Streets lurch up and down steep hills: even squares (irregular patches of grass with a statue) are pitched at an angle. Between the cathedral and the River Douro cobbled lanes, impenetrable to cars, zigzag downwards. The one-way traffic system defies all logic. Tourists clutch maps with a hopeless look in their eyes.

So steep are some streets that port-shippers emerging legless from the neo-classical Factory House, their 18th-century club, do not need to orient themselves: they can just roll down to the quayside.

This is not a fashionable city, and when the weather is bad its narrow thoroughfares can be gloomy. But with the sun shining on the tiled facades of the tall, balconied houses, and the granite church towers poking up over every part of the horizon, there is something exhilarating about the place. The immense Clérigos tower swaggers into the sky with baroque energy, and the views from the top are stupendous.

The cathedral, with its noble, Romanesque nave and spacious Gothic cloisters, has a grave dignity, unlike the church of São Francisco, which contains an orgy of exuberant baroque gilt woodwork that gives new meaning to the notion of bad taste.



The Douro river at Oporto

Down on the quayside, in the Ribeira district, tiny restaurants are lined up cheek by jowl. Tripe is the local favourite dish, but not mine, so I ate *bacalhau*, moist, richly flavoured salt cod prepared to as many recipes, they say, as there are days in the year. Skinned goats decorate the windows of butchers' shops, and the roasted end product is one of northern Portugal's tastiest dishes. The bread is wonderful, too: dark and heavy as a brick in the palm of one's hand.

Ribeira huddles beneath the immense iron bridge, the Ponte Dom Luis I, flung across the Douro river from the cliffs of Oporto to Vila Nova de Gaia on the opposite shore. Here in the port lodges, sprawled on every contour of the rising ground, casks of young port shipped down from the Douro vineyards mature until they are ready for bottling. Moored on the river are the handsome *barcos rabelos*, the square-sailed boats that once navigated perilous rapids to bring the casks downriver. Today the boats are museum pieces.

All the port lodges are open to visitors. You'll be given a tour of the vast cellars, an explanation of the port-making process and a taste of the final product. You can also buy direct from the producers, but prices are not much lower than they would be in Britain.

The Douro at Oporto is a river much like any other, but upstream, where the vineyards rise in steep terraces above the riverbank, is where the beautiful landscape of the Douro can be properly appreciated.

From Oporto, cruise boats travel the river almost as far as the Spanish border. By car, you can drive as far as Pinhão, or you can take the train that chugs beyond the town into the heart of the vineyard country. Alternatively, you can base yourself in Lamego or Amarante and make excursions into the Douro.

Given sufficient notice, some of the port lodges may be able to arrange for enthusiasts to visit a port vineyard (a *quinta*) 70 miles upstream.

The Upper Douro still resembles a region of warring principalities, except that here the warlords are the heads of rival port houses. One of them has a passion for Ferraris, so his great rival bought up Portugal's sole Ferrari dealership to make sure he bought no more. The two men enjoyed a brief truce during which one bought a vineyard from the other. When the new proprietor took possession, he discovered that the parting owner had uprooted every vine.

No such antics mar the conduct of the Robertson family, owners of the isolated *quinta* of Vargellas and co-proprietors of Taylor's and Fonseca Port. I arrived there on the last day of the harvest. A Union flag flapped over this most Portuguese of landscapes, its vine terraces following the curve of the river, and a steady autumn sun drenching the hills. At this traditional estate, squads of treaders were slowly stomping through the stone troughs in which the grapes are crushed and fermented.

After dinner and, perhaps, too much port, the guests of the Robertson family changed into shorts and T-shirts and headed down a path to the winery. Clambering over the edge of the troughs we found ourselves knee-deep in sticky purple juice.

An electric organ simulated an orchestra of thousands to which we danced, celebrating the harvest's end. We joined hands with the Portuguese women and twirled through the grapey mush. At midnight we foreigners retreated to the house so that the vineyard workers could revel late into the night without our inhibiting presence. At noon the next day the full complement of harvesters, to the accompaniment of drums and accordion, made their way up to the house for the *Ramo*, the end-of-harvest feast. In a scene with decidedly feudal overtones, a garland festooned with roses and grapes was presented to Alistair Robertson; he in turn thanked his workers and invited them to eat and drink and dance. Emboldened by sweet, red port, the thick-set grannies took their guests on to the terrace to bop.

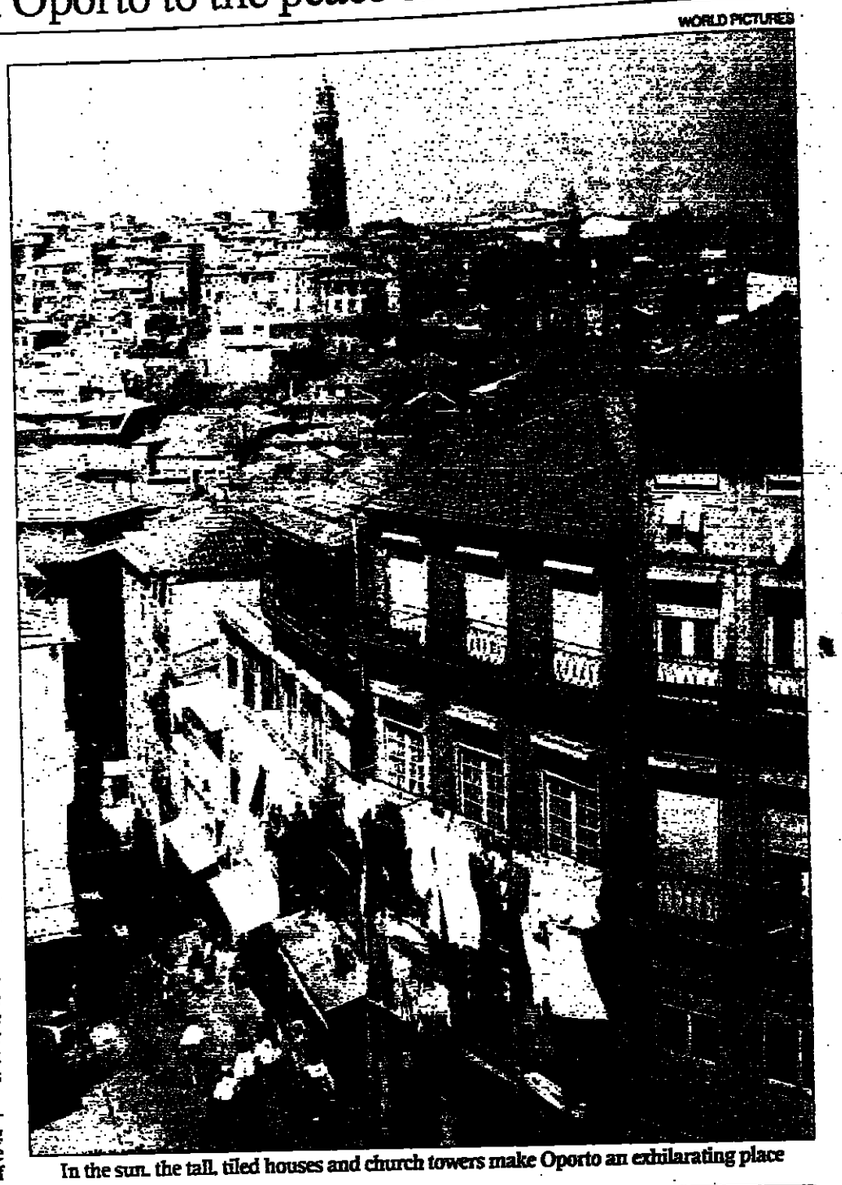
After a siesta, we took to the speedboats. The upper reaches of the Douro are dammed, so there is little traffic. I took the wheel and roared upstream to the riverside café where John Major, holidaying at a rival port house in August 1993, had lunched on chicken and chips. A plaque commemorates the historic occasion.

"Did John Major visit Vargellas, too?" I asked Mr Robertson.

"No," he replied with the effortless one-upmanship of the Portocrats. "We don't do holiday lets."

STEPHEN BROOK

WORLD PICTURES



In the sun, the tall, tiled houses and church towers make Oporto an exhilarating place

Getting there

☐ The author was a guest of Taylor's Port. Return fares on TAP (0171 828 0262) from Heathrow to Oporto are £240 midweek, £255 at weekends. Special offers, from £133 return, are often available.

☐ Rates at the modern Hotel Ipanema Park in Oporto are £71 single and £80 double, per night B&B (00 3512 610 4174; fax 00 3512 610 2809).

☐ Brief cruises up the Douro depart frequently from the Ribeira quayside. One or two-day cruises cost £60-£125, meals included. Contact Endouro Turismo, 49 Rua de Reboleira, Oporto (00 3512 324236; fax 00 3512 317260).

☐ The Portuguese National Tourist Office, 22 Sackville Street, London W1X 1DE (0171 494 1441) has details about accommodation at *pousadas* (hotels modelled on Spanish *paradors*) in Alijo and Amarante, both close to the Douro.

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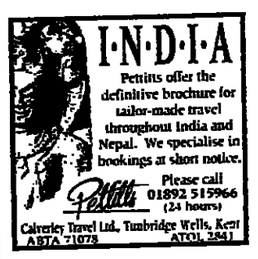
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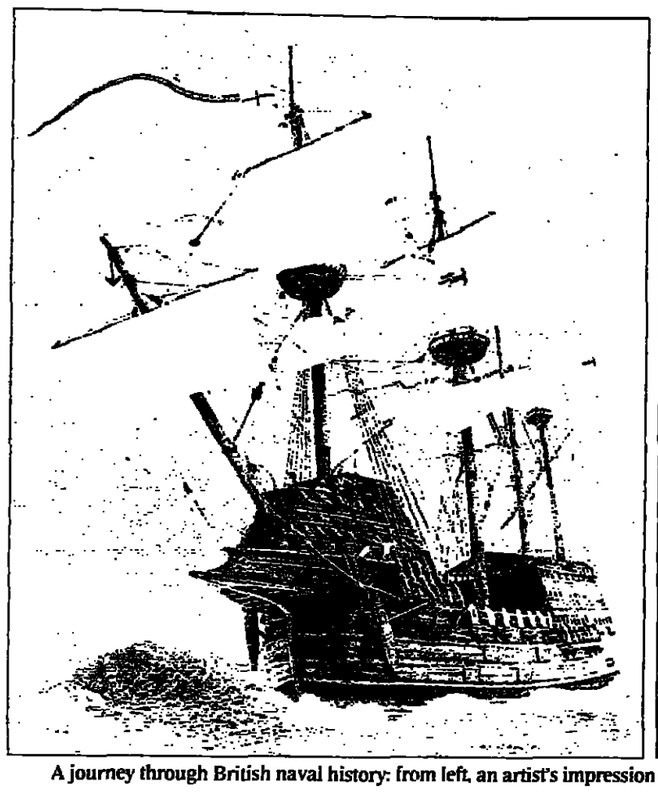
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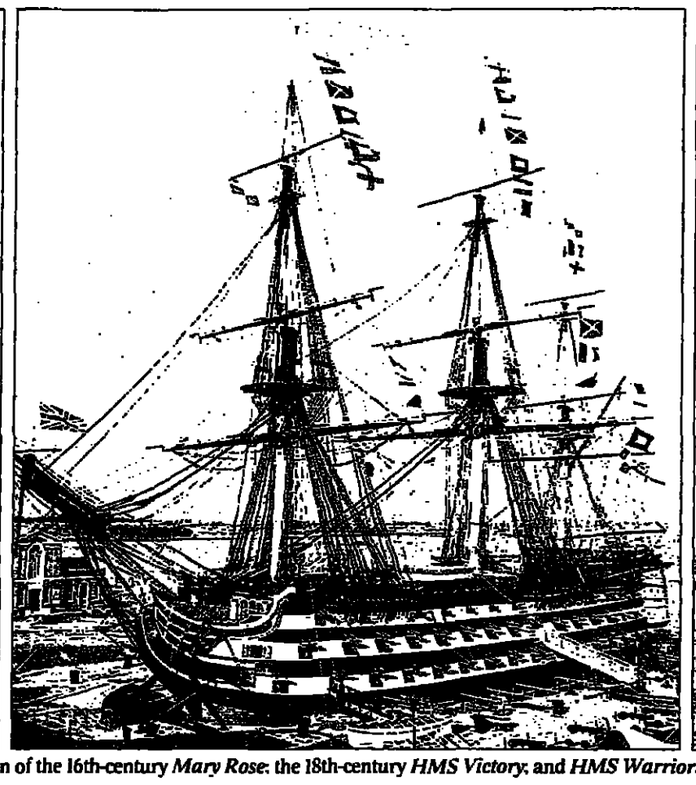
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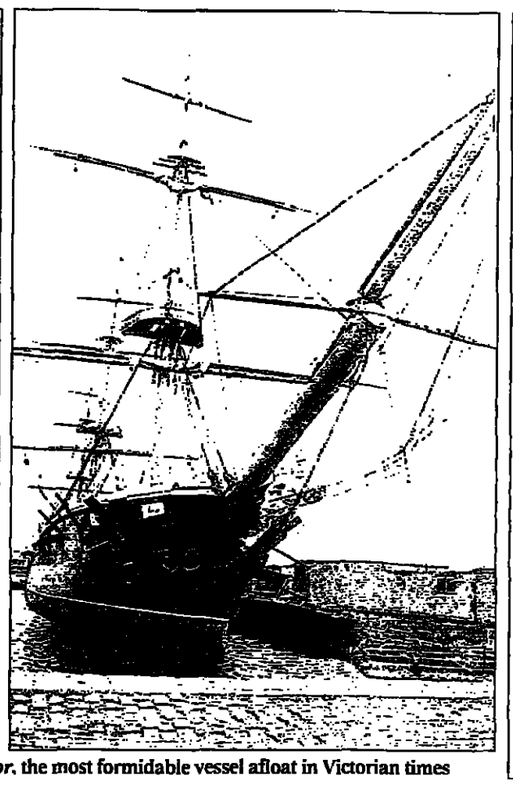
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PORTSMOUTH: Explore Britain's naval heritage with the family as a final half-term treat







A journey through British naval history: from left, an artist's impression of the 16th-century *Mary Rose*; the 18th-century *HMS Victory*; and *HMS Warrior*, the most formidable vessel afloat in Victorian times

Fact file

☐ Details of opening times and admission prices for all Portsmouth museums from the Portsmouth Tourist Board (01705 826722).

☐ Tickets covering the three historic ships and the Naval Dockyard attractions: £13, children £9.25, senior citizens £11.50. A family ticket (two adults and up to four children) costs £33. Discount tickets available for other museums.

☐ The Royal Marines Museum (01705 819385): £3, children £1.50, senior citizens £2.

☐ In May, August and September, Portsmouth will stage services, events and, in August and September, parades to commemorate VE/VJ Day and the British Pacific and East Indies Fleet. Details for VE/VJ Day from Capt Jim Rayner, the Royal Naval Association, 82 Chelsea Manor Street, London SW3 5QJ (0171 352 6764); British Pacific fleet events: Lyn Burke, British Chamber of Shipping, Carthusian Court, 12 Carthusian Street, London EC1M 6EB (0171 417 8400).

☐ Robin Neillands, a former Royal Marine, is the author of *The Conquest of the Reich: D-Day to VE Day*, just published by Weidenfeld & Nicolson (£20).

Sailing back into history

Portsmouth is not a pretty city. To be frank, it is downright ugly, but what else can you expect? After several hundred years in the hands of the Royal Navy, months of attention by the German Luftwaffe in 1940-41 and a final assault by local planners in the postwar period, civic beauty can hardly be expected.

On the other hand, beauty is not everything. Link Portsmouth to neighbouring Southsea, exchange architectural charm for historical interest, and Portsmouth-Southsea becomes a very fine city indeed.

Portsmouth is a city with a theme. That theme is "Martime History", and those who enjoy ships and the sea and all the excitement of a life on the ocean wave will find Portsmouth, with its plethora of maritime museums, a place that just has to be visited.



Moreover, museums have changed. The old style, with lots of glass cases and dusty exhibits, has given way to a hands-on, interactive version, with something of interest for all the family. That said, it pays to be selective. There are at least 14 maritime-related museums in the Portsmouth-Southsea area and taking the family round that lot would require a second mortgage.

The best way to tackle them is chronologically. The first ship to see is the *Mary Rose*, the flagship of Henry VIII's navy, which sank in the Solent 450 years ago when sailing to fight the French. It was hauled to the surface in 1982 and remains a 16th-century time-capsule, full of Tudor artefacts, from cutlery to longbows, most of which are on display.

The salvaged hull of the *Mary Rose* rests in a carefully controlled environment in Portsmouth Dockyard. From there it is no distance to the splendours of *HMS Victory*, Nelson's flagship at Trafalgar in 1805. The Royal Navy guides show you where Nelson fell and where he died.

Moving along to the 1860s, and moored outside the Dockyard gates, is *HMS Warrior*, a fine example of a late-Victorian warship. In her day she was the largest, fastest and most formidable vessel afloat. Now restored and refitted she is a glorious sight, a perfect reminder of the Victorian navy.

Apart from these warships there is the Royal Naval Museum, the Historic Dockyard itself and a hands-on exhibit, "The Dockyard Apprentice", which brings the story of the Royal Navy up to 1911.

A naval buff could easily spend a whole day in and around the dockyard, but the rest of the family will probably get mutinous around lunchtime. To fend that off, head for Southsea. The resort has a long, pebble beach, a busy pier, a leisure centre, a park and lots of restaurants. Once the family has been fed and watered, the tour can be resumed with a call on the Royal Marines. The 300-year history of that corps — including its ten Victoria Crosses — is on view in the former officers' mess at Eastney Barracks. A range of displays, featuring Commando training and the Falklands War, plus music and weapons and audio films, cover the history of the Marines from 1664 in great detail. When all that has been seen, there is a teashop to enjoy.

Passing back through Portsmouth and over the Gosport ferry, continue your tour at the Submarine World museum. This pulls in the crowds with a full-size submarine, *HMS Alliance*, which is parked rather than moored outside a main building full of more have-a-go displays. When the hatches are closed to start the tour, the submarine becomes somewhat claustrophobic for some people, but most children will love it.

If the weather looks bleak and the beach less than inviting, a day or two in Portsmouth offers a great chance for the family to explore Britain's maritime heritage.

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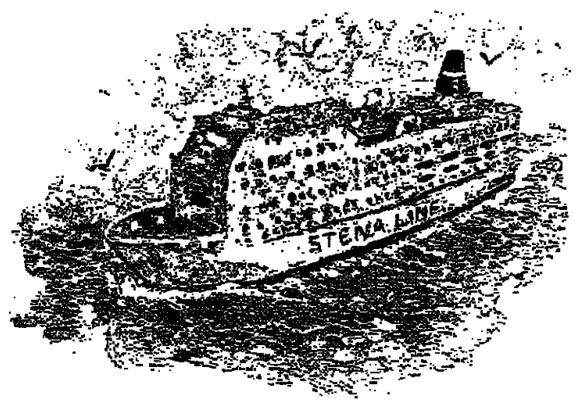
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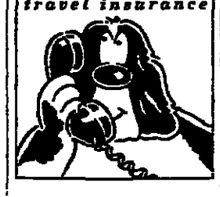
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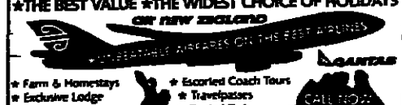
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GREEK ISLANDS: A voyage of discovery through the sunny Cyclades, from Mykonos to Santorini

By schooner to an idyll

With a near-barren landscape baked bronze by the sun, white-painted houses, tiny domed churches and clutches of windmills all standing back from the harbour, Mykonos conjures the idealised version of a Greek island. And it is as good a starting place as any to cruise the Cyclades islands.

Alternatives to the island's guesthouses have blossomed in or near the little port of Ornos Bay, ten minutes from Mykonos town. Overlooking the bay, the luxury-class Santa Marina hotel stands in 200 acres of splendid isolation, its villas and apartments, salt-water pool, fitness centre and tennis courts draping the hillside above the beach.

Behind the harbour of Mykonos town is a maze of narrow streets, where every corner reveals a new perspective: a tiny square, shaded by a fig tree; white-washed steps leading up to the balconies of houses with doors, window frames and shutters painted in the traditional blue or sepia, and where, in early morning, the scent of the geraniums mingles with that of the bakeries.

The most spectacular point of reference is the church of Paraportiani (meaning "many gates"), which comprises four chapels on varying levels forming one sparkling white church on the site of an old Venetian fortress.

The church is one of the gateways to Alefkantra, or "little Venice". This old Venetian quarter juts out in a promontory whose foundations are lapped, sometimes lashed, by the sea. It has more than a dozen bars, which come to life in the evening as people gather to watch the sunset. The Caprice is the smartest and noisiest: Montparnasse, the most peaceful and relaxed.

The shops, too, come alive in the evening, especially the scores of jewellers.

Among the specialist shops are Apocalypse, where craftsmen make copies of icons using tempera and gold leaf, and Parallilo, which, using a combination of pewter, zinc and brass, creates bowls, platters and other *objets*.

One of the best restaurants is the Catrine. The owner's mother does the cooking: a piquant *sévice* of various fish, along with island staples such as stuffed vine leaves, artichokes, zucchini and a superb seafood risotto.

Emerging from the buzz of the restaurant at 1.30am, crowds thronged the narrow streets, and music tapes blared from the bars. I was glad to be staying at the Santa Marina.

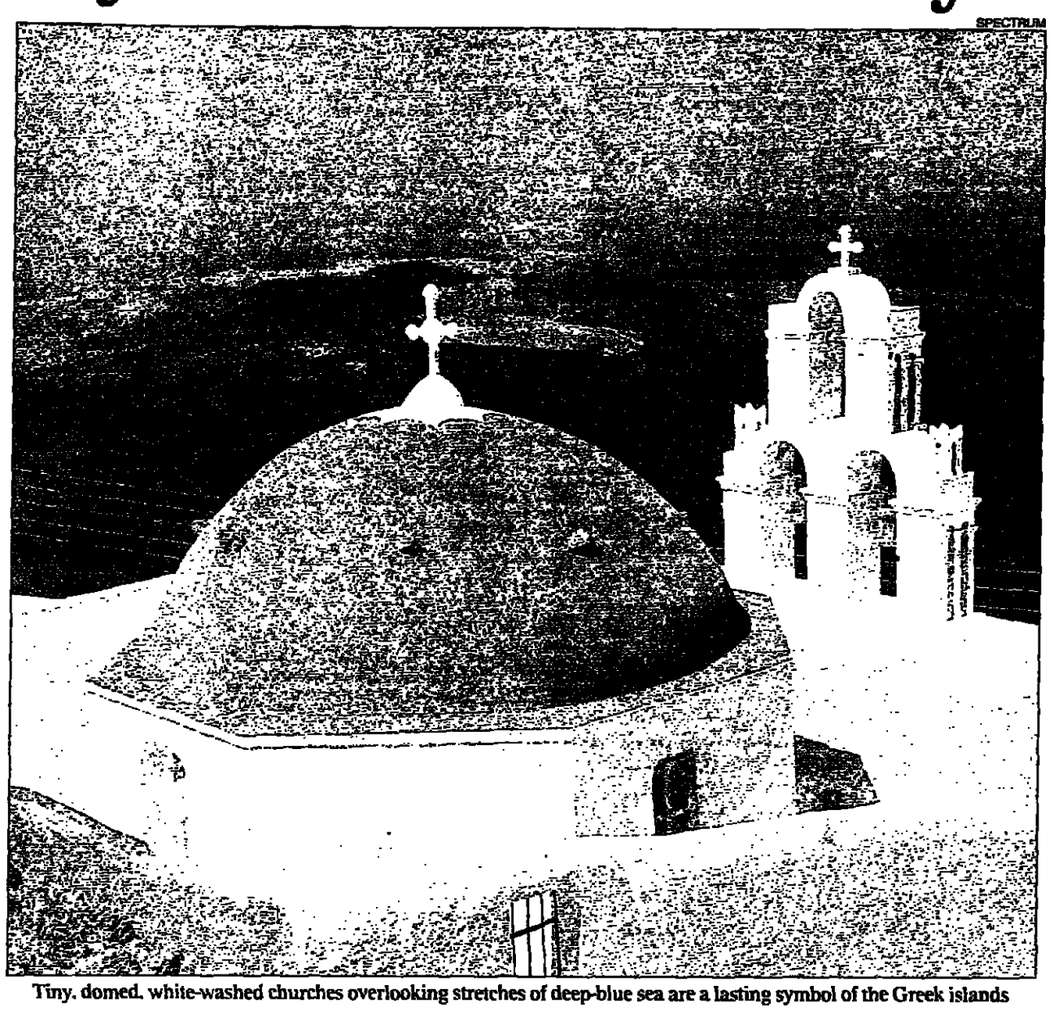
> The scent of the geraniums mingles with that of the bakeries

Early next day, we sailed from Ornos Bay in a handsome 60ft schooner bound for Santorini, now officially known by its ancient name Thera, or Thirra, by the Greeks. Our first port of call was Naxos, where Theseus abandoned Ariadne.

In contrast to most Cycladic ports, of which it is the biggest, Naxos bustles with business-like dredgers and tankers, caiques and fishing boats. It is also famed for its craftsmen. On the street behind the lively, café-lined waterfront is a shop that sells copies of traditional Cycladic sculptures and figurines. On the street corner is a window crammed with conserves and Kitron, a lemon-based liquer which is obtainable only here.

Sailing on, it was a couple of hours and several drinks later before we dropped anchor at the tiny island of Iraklia. To swim in cool waters was a delight, and in the meantime the solitary taverna on the bluff above was alerted to provide lunch for our party of ten.

We sat at one long table as the local treats arrived, with pitchers of chilled retsina. There were olives, salads, snails (whose wine-infused juices were mopped up with crusty bread), pasta, whitebait and roast chicken with chips. Iraklia was the highlight of our trip.



SPECTRUM

Tiny, domed, white-washed churches overlooking stretches of deep-blue sea are a lasting symbol of the Greek islands

We reached Santorini as daylight faded. One can make the ascent to the town of Thira by mule, but there is a swift funicular which disgorges its passengers in the town centre. A minibus took us to Megalahori, in the southernmost part of the island. On the edge of the village, lying in wine bar, the other the main restaurant.

Here, with candles on the tables and Verdi on the tape deck, we dined in some splendour. The chefs have been apprenticed to some of the best restaurants in London, and the food — all based on local ingredients such as scallops, shrimp and sea bream — is deliciously light and inventive. The meal was accompanied by a fruity yet astringent local white wine, Astyrico.

Awakened by the sound of church bells, I stood on my balcony next morning, overlooking the striped vineyards under a sky of breathtaking clarity. But Santorini's climate is such that one wisp of cloud can magnify, within minutes, into a light, humid mist over the vines — and melt away as quickly as it came.

> Across the island, the lights looked like pendants of yellow diamonds

Beaches are not the main attraction of this island, but the Hotel Vedema has a private stretch near by where the black, volcanic sand is boarded-over to accommodate sunbeds and a beach bar.

The riddle of Atlantis aside, Santorini was an important Minoan settlement until, in the first of many recorded natural disasters, it was all but blown to pieces in the earthquake and subsequent volcanic eruption of about 1450 BC. The resulting tidal wave destroyed much of the Minoan civilisation of Crete.

Visually, Santorini's west coast is one long, curved cliff face, striped with colours which vary from pale pink through grey to umber, depending on the light, and some of the buildings trickle over the top into little clefts. The town of Thera (now called Fira, or Phira) is a pretty little white place whose Cycladic architecture resembles that of Mykonos, save for the more flamboyant, fondant-coloured church domes and the beautiful bell towers to be seen in this and every settlement of any size: a particularly fine example bestrides the main street in Megalahori.

Thera both suffers and profits from the hordes of tourists. But cut through the streets to the cliff path, near the Atlantis Hotel, and you begin to appreciate the beauty and drama of the setting, overlooking the ancient *caldera*, or volcanic crater, whose dark-blue waters are about 1,300ft deep.

In contrast to the rock and pop of Mykonos, there is classical music and grand opera at Franco's bar. As you sip the house special, a heady, champagne-based cocktail named Callas, you can almost hear the voice of the *diva*.

It was after dark when we reached Ia (Oia), Santorini's northern-most village. Around the start of the century, it was the most important village of the island, prosperous in trade and shipping, and possessed some handsome sea captain's houses and wineries. The earthquake of 1956 caused severe damage, but it has been faithfully restored and carries on a much more traditional way of life than Thera.

Ia is less accessible and quieter than the rest of the island, but has some shops and restaurants of quality. Our choice was the Koukoumavalos which, apart from some delicious, French-accented food such as stuffed crêpes, possessed spell-binding views. Across the curve of the island, the lights of Thera and Megalahori looked like pendants of yellow diamonds.

For a longer stay in Ia (or a week split between here and Megalahori) the Perivolos hotel is another quite different conversion of an old-style winery. Each of its 16 double rooms are vaulted and white-washed, with kitchenette and private balcony. A pool, with a bar, overlooks the waters of the *caldera*, and the town and its restaurants are five minutes' walk away.

DOONE BEAL

How to get there

☐ The author was a guest of Argo Holidays, 100 Wigmore Street, London W1H 9DR (0171 331 7070), which specialises in Greece and its islands. A 12-day, half-board, schooner, or caique, cruise through the islands costs £595-£655 per person including scheduled flights.

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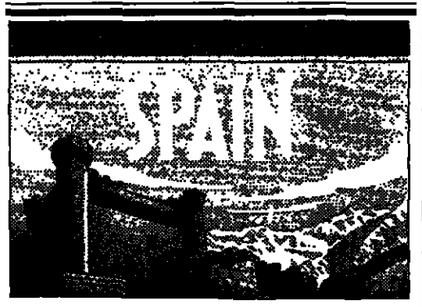
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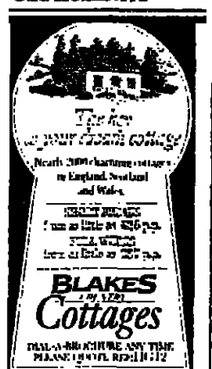
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There's a half day excursion to Jerez, home of sherry; a half day tour to the historic port of Cadiz, which occupies a strategic position on the Atlantic coast, and a full day's excursion to the famous Rock of Gibraltar, still a British enclave.

Our final optional tour, and one of the most recommended is to Ronda, one of Spain's oldest cities built in a simply breathtaking location on either side of a 600ft gorge.

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CHESS

by Raymond Keene

In chess it is possible for one to play against many, in a so-called "simultaneous display". For example, in Oxford in 1973 I took on 100 different opponents all at once, walking around the inside edges of a giant square formed by the chessboards of my opponents:

The "simul", which is chess shorthand for such demonstrations by masters or grandmasters, has proved to be a valuable fund-raiser for charitable purposes. Teams who challenge a champion under such circumstances can raise pledges from backers amongst their friends and family, based on the number of moves each game lasts.

Charities which have benefited from chess simuls in the past include the World Wide Fund for Nature, the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children and the Sick Children's Trust, which was the official charity of The Times World Championship in 1993.

Now, Save the Children is about to benefit from an ambitious event hosted by London solicitors Watson, Farley & Williams, to be staged at the Royal Automobile Club in Pall Mall next Saturday. Ten British champions, past and present, among them Jon Speelman, Jonathan Mestel, Cathy Forbes and myself will take on 100 players in four consecutive rounds.

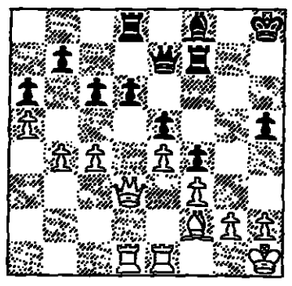
The champions' team was largely put together by Henry Mutkin of the RAC Chess Circle, while Barry Martin, the official artist of the 1993 World Championship and captain of the Chelsea Arts Club side, has assembled a squad of chessplaying celebrities to take on the masters.

Among those taking up the challenge are Michael Stern, MP, and Donald Woods, the hero of Richard Attenborough's film, *Cry Freedom*. Woods will be a formidable opponent, having gained valuable experience against no less a player than Anatoly Karpov, the champion of the World Chess Federation.

In this game, Black puts up stern resistance before finally crumbling to the champion's superior technique.

White: Anatoly Karpov; Black: Donald Woods
Simultaneous Display, Lucerne 1977
Pirc Defence

1	e4	d6	2	d4	Nf6
3	Nc3	g6	4	Nf3	Bg7
5	Be2	0-0	6	0-0	Nc6
7	d5	Ne5	8	Nd4	a6
9	Re1	Ned7	10	a4	Nc5
11	Bf1	e5	12	dxe6	fxe6
13	b4	a5	14	Nf3	Ne6
15	Bc4	Kh8	16	Ng5	Nxg5
17	Bxg5	c6	18	a5	h6
19	Bh4	g5	20	Bg3	Bg4
21	f3	Bh5	22	Qd3	Qe7
23	Rad1	Rad8	24	Bb3	Bf7
25	Bxf7	Rxf7	26	Bf2	Nh5
27	Ne2	Nf4	28	Nxf4	gxf4
29	c4	Bf8	30	Kh1	h5



Up to this point Black's defence has been solid, but this thrust indicates that Karpov has perceived a potential area of weakness. He swiftly follows up with a decisive penetration of the Black queen's flank.

31	b5	h4	32	h3	Rg7
33	Re2	Qf6	34	bxc6	bxc6
35	c5	Qg5	36	Be1	Ra7
37	Qc3	Rad7	38	cxd6	Rxd6
39	Rxd6	Rxd6	40	Rd2	Rxd2
41	Bxd2	Qf6	42	Be1	Kh7
43	Qc4	c5	44	Qd5	Qd6
45	Qf7+	Bg7	46	Bxh4	Qc6
47	Qc4	Kg6	48	Be7	Qd7
49	Bxc5	Qc6	50	Qd5	Qxd5
51	exd5	Kf5	52	g4+	fxg3
53	Kg2	Kf4	54	d6	Bf8
55	d7	Bd8	56	Bb6	e4
57	fxe4				

Black resigns.

Anatoly Karpov has won the Chess Oscar awarded by the International Chess Writers Association for superlative performance in 1994, specifically his outstanding victory at the Linares tournament.

WINNING MOVE

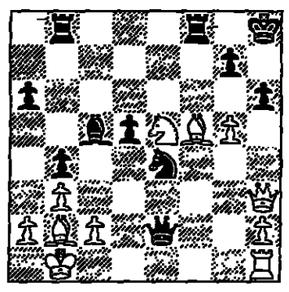
By Raymond Keene

This week's positions are all taken from Garry Kasparov's Puzzle Book (Cadogan £8.99). In Chiburdanidze - Larsen, Vienna 1993 White concluded the game with a brilliant combination. Can you spot the key first move?

Send your answers on a postcard to *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday will win a British Chess Magazine publication. The answer will be published next Saturday.

Last week's solution: 1 Ng5+

Last week's winners: H Drabble, Stanmore, Middlesex; J Jaconelli, Hove, E Sussex; J F Hope-Smith, Eccles, Manchester.



PUNCHLINE

READERS are invited to write an amusing caption for the cartoon on the right. The cartoon, from the Punch library, includes the contemporary caption.

The cartoon will be printed again next week on the Games page with a caption selected from those submitted.

Caption suggestions, on a postcard please, should be addressed to: Cartoon caption 46, Weekend Games Page, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. The editor's decision is final.

The closing date for entries is Wednesday, March 1.



A STAGE WHISPER AT THE EXHIBITION.
"ATHLETES FROM THE STATUE!"



"Any friends of Batman are fine by me"

The winning caption for last week's cartoon (above) was submitted by James Fisher, of London SW19

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

FLUBDUB
a. A sticky pudding
b. Bombast
c. A clumsy fellow

OBAMBULATE
a. To wander around
b. Partly obscured
c. Knock-kneed

HAMADRYAD
a. An Oriental drum
b. A tree nymph
c. A bouncy metre

RAMPALLION
a. A bold woman
b. A fairground slide
c. A venomous snake

Answers on page 15

COMPUTER GAMES

THE DANK corridors of "Doom 2 — Hell on Earth" were clearly a favourite of 12-year-old Chris Jack of Newton Fareham, Hants. He wrote: "'Doom' had everything — big guns, aliens, scant regard for human life and, of course, marvellous sound effects. 'Doom 2' is really just more of the same — but LOTS more. It has 30 original levels, six new monsters and a deadly new shotgun."

But Chris also concluded that the slick shoot-'em-up wasn't quite slick enough for its £35-plus price tag. He explained: "Makers id Software could have been more inventive. What about some vehicles? More weapons? Grenades? 'Doom 2' has no real rivals and has to be the game of the year. It doesn't tax your intelligence or initiative — the most mentally difficult feature of the game is to know your rocket-firing range. The strategy isn't over-complicated, namely, kill people and scavenge off them!"

By comparison, softie Ian Bentley of White Notley, Essex, praised "Monkey Island" for its lack of violence. He wrote: "If you are like me and don't take the world too seriously, or use computer games to indulge in psychopathic violent tendencies, then 'Monkey Island' could be what you are looking for. It's not new but you can now buy it so cheaply that it must represent the best value for money around.

"This is a graphic adventure game with a sense of humour in which you are a would-be pirate heading to the island to rescue the heroine from the clutches of evil Captain Le Chuck. You must solve the usual puzzles, pick up and use objects and talk to characters to get information.

"So far, so run of the mill. But along with all this is an imaginative stream of jokes and genuinely funny situations which give the whole game a good-time feel. The characters are a motley mixture — from Stan the used-galleon salesman, to the gang of cannibals who are more civilised than anyone else.

"No one gets killed and Monkey Island never forgets that it is just a game. It's all the better for it," he concluded.

These were just two of the many entries for Cyberspace Twelve, asking for reviews of any new title in your collection. Now, without further ado, to announce our six winners.

Commiserations to our losers but congratulations to: Ian Bentley and Chris Jack; Timothy Pudge of Southampton; Jonathan Coupée of Cranbrook, Kent; Peter Walsh of Sunderland; and Mr K. Sartain of Crosby, Liverpool (whose entry comes under the microscope next week).

Each of our six winners will receive six titles from Empire Interactive boasting a dozen games in all — "Dawn Patrol — The First Air War", "Campaign II" and "Dreamweb" (on Cd-Rom) and "Award Winners Golf", "Award Winners Platinum" and "Combat Classics Two" (on floppy disc). Our losers should not lose heart as Cyberspace Thirteen is lurking just around the corner.

We always appreciate your inputs. Please send them to us, as always, at Computer Games, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. You can also fax us on 0171 729 6791.

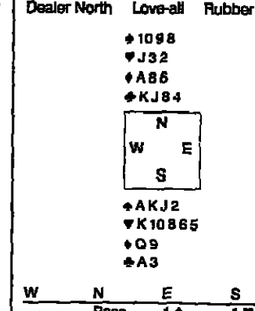
TIM WAPSHOTT

BRIDGE

by Robert Sheehan

HOW would you set about this hand?

Dealer North Love-all Rubber bridge



W	N	E	S
—	Pass	1♦	1♥[1]
Pass	2♦[2]	Pass	2♠
Pass	3♥	Pass	4♥
All pass			

Contract: Four hearts by South
Opening lead: four of diamonds

[1] At one time it was automatic to double on hands like this. But over the last few years it has become the practice to overcall on quite strong hands if your shape is not ideal for a take-out double. The accepted strength range for an overcall is thus much wider than it used to be.

[2] An "unassuming cue-bid" (UCB). It shows a high-card raise to at least Two Hearts. UCBs are useful for distinguishing between constructive raises and pre-emptive raises, and as you can see, have crept into the rubber bridge scene.

West leads the four of diamonds to the six and the king, and East returns a diamond to the queen, with West following with the three. You play a club to the king with the idea of starting hearts from dummy. East ruffs the king of clubs and returns another diamond. There seems to be little chance of making the contract if West is void in diamonds, so you discard the ace of clubs. West follows to the third round of diamonds. How do you proceed?

This should be your thought process:

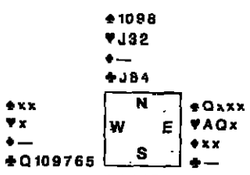
1 When West follows to a third round of diamonds, that marks East with five. So what is East's shape? Clearly it has to be 4-4-5-0 (one more time, *always* spades hearts diamonds and clubs in that order) — as he is marked with eight cards in the majors he must have four of each. If he had a five-card major he would open One of that major in preference to One Diamond.

2 Where are the remaining high cards? So far we know that East has the king-jack of diamonds. To open the bidding he needs the ace of hearts and both major suit queens — or else he would only have ten points, hardly enough to open a 4-4-5-0, with the prospect of having to rebid Two Diamonds over a Two Club response. (Better with only ten points is to pass. You may be able to describe your hand later in one bid, for example by making a take-out double of the opponents' club bids.)

So a reasonable construction of East's hand is:

♠Qxxx ♥AQxx ♦KJ10xx ♣—

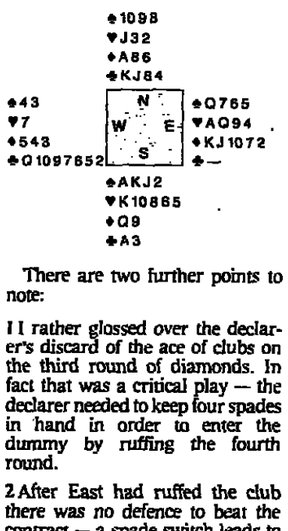
Having gone through all this, you are now in a position to decide how to continue. The hypothetical situation is:



You have lost two tricks and the lead is in dummy. Can you see how to arrange to lead twice through East's hearts and simultaneously avoid losing a spade trick?

The critical play is to run the ten of spades. If East plays low you switch back to hearts, intending to play the ten if East plays low, and then re-enter dummy by ruffing the fourth round of spades to lead another trump. In practice East took the ace of hearts and played another spade; but the end-position was the same.

This was the full deal:



There are two further points to note:

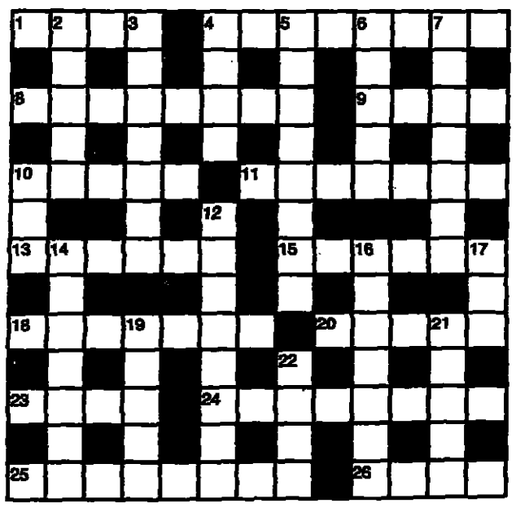
1 I rather glossed over the declarer's discard of the ace of clubs on the third round of diamonds. In fact that was a critical play — the declarer needed to keep four spades in hand in order to enter the dummy by ruffing the fourth round.

2 After East had ruffed the club there was no defence to beat the contract — a spade switch leads to the ending described above. Best play by East in the nine-card ending shown in the second diagram is the queen of hearts. South wins the king and plays the ten — East can duck this, but has to take the next round and give the dummy entry to take the spade finesse.

COMPETITION

THERE was a good entry for the "Suit Pairings" competition. The "bruiseds" was the most popular name for the black and blues (spade and new blue club). The winner will be announced next week.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 405

ACROSS
1 Insult deliberately (4)
4 Perfect final document (4,4)
8 Someone/thing exciting, titillating (3,5)
9 Repair (eg socks) (4)
10 Illness with high temperature (5)
11 Meantime (7)
13 Shrivel up (6)
15 System of flexible pipes (6)
18 Casual: unpremeditated (7)
20 Smallest amount (5)
23 New-born; tiny (4)
24 Stocky (8)
25 Eagerness, sharpness (8)
26 Unpolished; impolite (4)

DOWN
2 Loop with running knot (5)
3 Implore (7)
4 Vendetta (4)
5 Unlimited (8)
6 Obtain by begging (5)
7 A helping (7)
10 Only a small number (3)
12 Dark-haired girl (8)
14 Arouse, kindle (7)
16 Large wave; small water cask (7)
17 Obtain (3)
19 Josef —, Austrian composer (5)
21 Lay out, use up (5)
22 Prejudice (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 404

ACROSS: 2 Snapshot 6 Cosset 8 Alarum 9 Sparing 10 Order 12 Start a hare 16 Sweat blood 18 Auger 20 Uranium 21 Legate 22 Girdle 23 Waterloo
DOWN: 1 Compute 2 Stone Age 3 Pallor 4 Hired 5 Timbre 7 Surprise 11 Recliner 13 Alter ego 14 Voluble 15 Wallow 17 Writer 19 Gigot

CROSSWORD BOOKS: **The Times Concise Crosswords**: (Books 1 & 2 £5.99 each), Books 3,4,5,6 & **NEW Book 7** £4.50 each. **The Times Jumbo Crosswords**: (Books 1 & 2 £5.99 each, Concise Book £5.99). **The Times Crosswords**: (Books 1 to 13 £4.99 each), Books 14 to 18 & **NEW Book 19** £4.50 each. **The Sunday Times Crosswords** — (Book 1 £4.99), Books 10,11,12 & **NEW Book 13** £4.50 each. **The Sunday Times Concise**: Books 1,2,3 £4.50 each. Except the items in brackets, software available for all titles for **IBM PCs** and **Acorn Archimedes** computers — Price £14.95 each — also The Times Computer Crosswords Vols 1 to 6, The Sunday Times Vols 1 to 6 and The Times Jubilee Edition.
Prices inc p&p (UK). Cheques with order payable to ***Akom Ltd***, 5 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW. Tel 0181-852 4575 (24 hrs). No credit cards.

THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

No. 3294: Optimist, by Fenrix

Clues and lights fall into three categories:

1) The clue contains an extraneous word. The initial letter of this is to be found at least once in the answer. Only one of such examples is to be misplaced on entry (Thus "roar" might be entered as "rroa", "orar", etc., but not e.g. "orra").

2) A word in the clue has been distorted by the insertion of a letter. This letter is to be omitted from the answer wherever it appears.

3) A word in the clue has been distorted by the omission of a letter. This letter is to be inserted into or added to the answer to form the light.

Additions and omissions may affect any component of a clue. Mutilated lights are rarely words in themselves, and some words in clues cease to be words after treatment.

One phrase and one nickname are not in Chambers. In clue order, rogue letters spell out a quotation and a brief reference to its origin. The title refers only to this quotation.

13	S	K	R	C	S	P	R	O	O	A	N	E	R
12	P	L	A	G	A	T	E	S	E	T	E	M	O
11	A	G	E	N	I	A	N	B	L	I	G	T	T
10	D	O	T	Y	A	V	E	L	A	T	U	R	A
9	I	W	I	L	T	E	D	C	H	O	S	I	L
8	C	L	A	V	I	E	E	E	E	E	J	A	R
7	E	E	N	P	L	A	S	T	E	R	S	G	E
6	S	T	O	R	E	R	C	F	A	C	T	G	M
5	S	O	O	I	T	O	A	F	L	O	A	T	A
4	T	A	S	E	W	O	R	M	S	B	R	E	N
3	A	U	T	R	E	X	T	A	M	E	N	D	E
2	I	C	U	S	E	R	E	G	A	L	I	A	N
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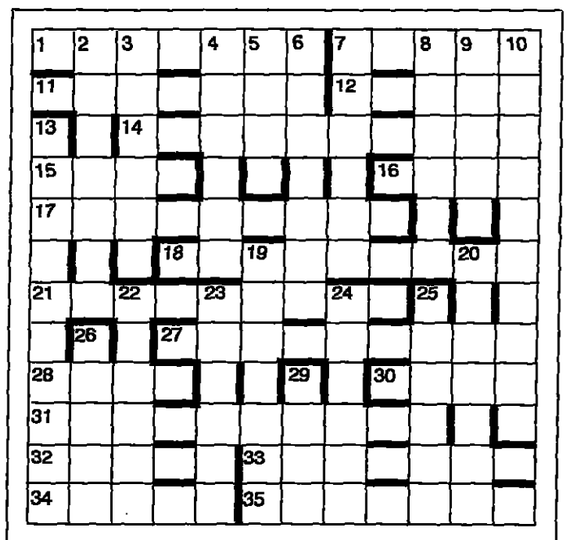
Solution and notes to No 3291, Coordination by Duck

COGITO ERGO SUM comes from René Descartes' *Discours de la Methode* (initial letters of clues not involved in clashes). Descartes was responsible for Cartesian coordinates.

The **winner** was Neil D. Stein, of south-west London. The runners-up were Mrs Jennifer M Hinchliff, of Edinburgh and Mrs E.V. Roberts, of East Molesey.

ACROSS
1. During reaction of propionic acid, I, a doc. strangely take no part at first (7, two words)
7. Monkeys camp with unseemly haste in the highlands (5)
11. A subversive learns to blow up arms depot (7)
12. Monastic rule reversed, omitting "liberal unction" drill (5)
14. Ritual eating of raw meat ceased - a magic hoop showing no trace of cannibalism (10)
15. Ill-rendered lieder caused irritation (4)
16. Now more towns like Cheltenham reverse changes (4)
17. Ringo Starr, discarding rig, surprisingly turned up (9)
18. With a minimum of justice, Surrey cops twist wrist (9)
21. After frightful fracas Parisian tat disfigured gang boss (9)
27. A romantic having no time for playing *fp* (9)
28. A solitary tree unburnt in combustion (4)
30. Play ball with Times newspaper (4)
31. Knitter works with hesitation: his customer might have got one (10)
32. In Chambers it's shown to men otherwise in Chelsea (5)
33. You'll need a clue for this - the proposal is about a road (7)
34. From plebs, Mel, not born high (5)
35. It's existent in country pile housing English baronet (7, two words)

DOWN
2. What leaders heave when coppers surround working English miner (7)
3. Having more than one part amateur has a role recast before tea (6)
4. Useless as curios, being decayed (6)
5. "I'll be in bed, playing xylophone" No, honey, that's out of order (4)
6. Big catch for late fish-eater (7)
7. Keep on getting up before us parents and you'll get smacks (6)
8. Sign to start relaying Reed number (6)
9. Wary deity in a storm becomes red (5)
10. Steel's in Liberal suite (ten) (10)
13. For water-plants elaborat e tests will determine proportion surviving (10)
19. Geometric figures "bor him" (sic) (7)
20. From rough indication, Italian peasants (7)
22. Min's main mistake is belief that Stones have soul (6)
23. Fellow first to glory in old saw "Where there's muck there's brass" - here's an example (6)
24. Sinful as incest, what some women swear (6)
25. Here's the head of family riding a cob (6)
26. Ripe singing at close (5)
29. Coasting with restraint around Sweden (4)



LISTENER CROSSWORD No. 3294

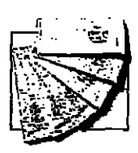
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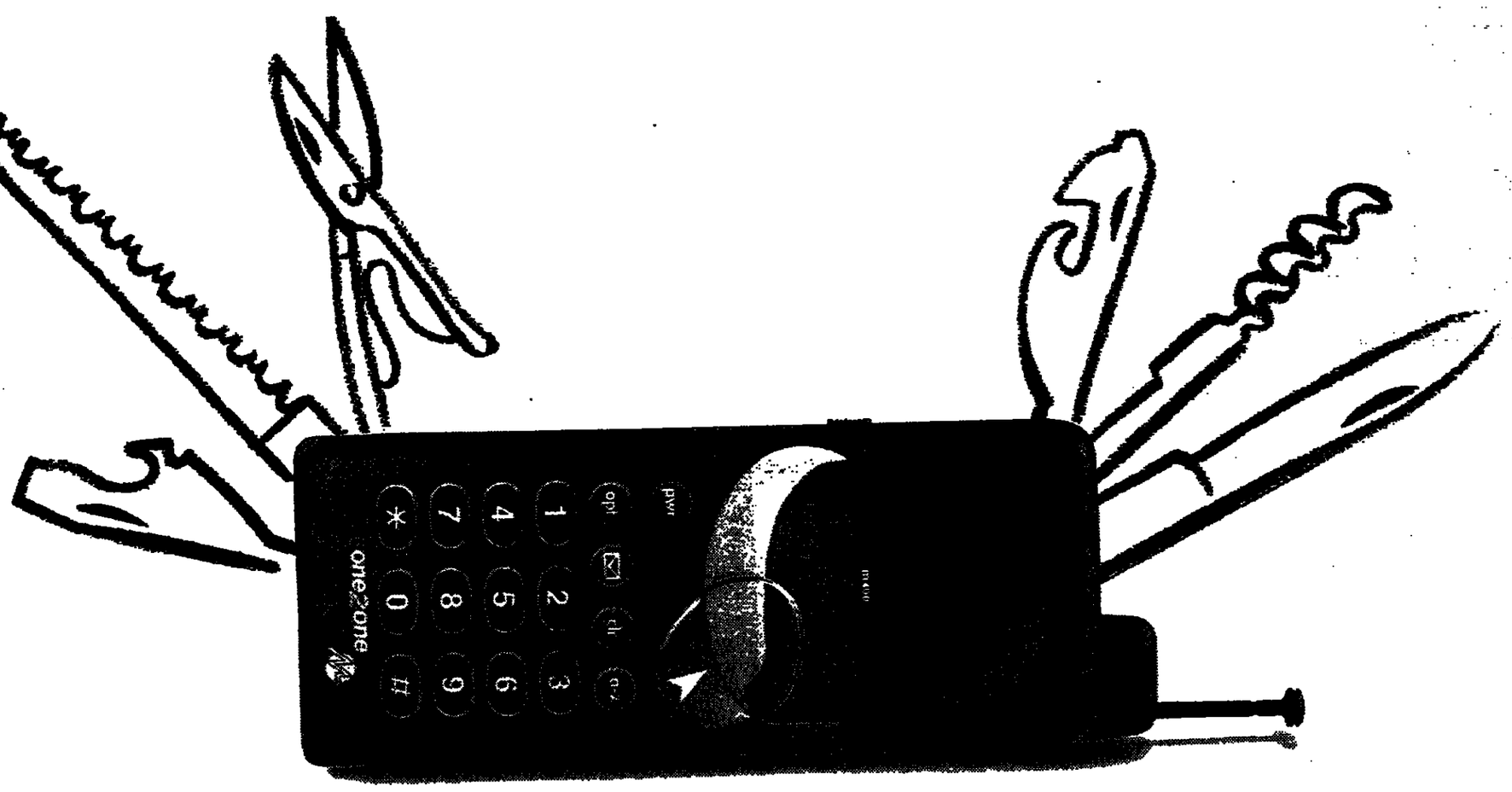
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PRIZES: Book tokens worth £50 will go to the winner. The two runners-up will each win £20 book tokens.

ADDRESS: Readers should cut out and send the completed crossword and coupon above, to The Listener Crossword 3294, 63 Green Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire. AL3 6HE. Entries must be received by Thursday, March 9.



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